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2013

Happy Holidays

The Bethel Citizen

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Serving Bethel and neighboring communities in the mountains of western Maine

Thanks to quick-thinking neighbors, a happier Christmas

By ALISON ALOISIO

"Santa will know where to find him."

Edleen Winslow of Bethel is looking on the bright side after her 83-year-old husband, John, fell in his driveway Dec. 7 and broke two bones in his neck. He will likely still be in the hospital for Christmas.

But that's a minor setback compared to what might have happened that evening. Edleen had just left for work when John went out to spread ashes on the driveway to improve traction.

But he slipped and fell, gashed his head and found himself unable to move, she said Monday.

"He had a cell phone but he couldn't use it," Edleen said.

So for about 40 minutes, he called for help.

Fortunately, neighbor

See THANKS, Page 1

Bar plans dropped, selectmen blamed

By ALISON ALOISIO

A businessman who had hoped to open the "Ringside Bar" in Locke's Mills blamed Greenwood selectmen Tuesday for having to drop his plans.

Tom Boughter of Waterford had come to the board two weeks ago for a liquor license approval, which would have allowed him to open the former Mt. Mica Rarities gem shop building as a sports bar.

But they tabled it for two weeks, citing their own and other residents' concerns about traffic exiting the downhill driveway that enters Route 26. The selectmen decided to ask for input from the Maine Department of Transportation and possibly the town attorney before making a decision.

Boughter was not required to bring his proposal before the town's Planning Board because the business housed in the building would still be retail and is not considered a change of use, according to town officials.

Before tabling, two select-

See BAR, Page 4

From Santas big and small, Merry Christmas

On Saturday Santa Claus paid a visit to Maine Line Products in Locke's Mills, and many area children turned out to see him. Eight-month-old Bradley Sincyr-Newbert of West Paris was not at all shy about sitting with Santa, perhaps finding a kindred spirit in a red suit. *A. Aloisio*

Two decades in a changing real estate business

By ALISON ALOISIO

In 1988, not long after Cindy Hiebert began working in real estate, the market began slowing down.

The Bethel native and her family had just moved from West Paris to Rangeley.

"The banks were tightening up on their lending," she recalls.

It was not an easy time to be breaking into the business, but Hiebert says there was a silver lining.

By not starting in a boom time, she never had unrealistic expectations.

"It taught me you have to work hard in this business," she said.

She's been working hard ever since, and this year marked her 20th year of ownership at Mahoosuc Realty in Bethel.

Lakes and mountains

Although she began her career during a difficult market, Rangeley was a good place to be, she said.

"It was fun to explore the older cottages on the lake and the mountain homes," she said. "I really enjoyed meeting people and trying find the right fit for them."

The mechanics of arranging sales then seem laughable now.

If she wanted to update a potential buyer on a price change for a property, she wrote a letter. And copies of sales contracts were done with carbon paper and mailed back and forth, stretching out the process for days.

"When we got our first fax machine in 1992 we thought that was really cool," remembers Hiebert.

Networking with potential clients involved a lot of handwritten paperwork.

"From the first day, I kept a notebook of everyone I ever had contact with," she said.

Her attention to such details paid off, and after six years of successful brokering, Hiebert was looking for other opportunities

See REAL ESTATE, Page 4

Telstar's CMCC students share their experiences

By AMY CHAPMAN

Four Telstar High School seniors are participating in a pilot program that allows them to take classes at Central Maine Community College while earning credits toward graduation at Telstar.

Mariha Morin, Hali Barter, Jessica Dirago, and Hope Doyle have each carried a full course load at CMCC during the fall semester. Although they were entering a busy week of final exams, they took time out from studying to address the school directors at Monday night's board meeting.

All had positive things to say about the collaboration between CMCC and Telstar. Morin said she liked the atmosphere of the college, and having more freedom. She added, "I like seeing all the different cultures, because here at Telstar you don't really see that."

Barter, who took six college classes, said she was able to arrange her schedule so that she attended CMCC each day from 8 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., which allowed her to continue to play on the Telstar field hockey team.

Asked by a board member if Telstar had prepared her well to take college classes, Barter admitted, "Personally, for me, I didn't make the best decisions at Telstar because I felt like I could get away with it more, because they weren't as strict. In college, you know if you don't pass something in, you're getting a zero."

The others agreed that the college-level work was harder and the expectations higher than they were used to, but, said Dirago, "You do have that challenge, but you definitely want to rise up to that challenge and you work harder."

Socially, Dirago said she had expected the transition from high school to college to be more difficult than it turned out to be. "Everyone made me feel really welcome. You make friends so quickly; you just feel at home."

When Woodstock director Marcel Polak asked, "Is this stimulating an interest for you to continue

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Letters

MISCONCEPTIONS AT ANDOVER HEARING

To the Editor:

I attended the Andover Public Meeting on withdrawal from SAD 44. I chose not to speak. Jack Turcotte, their consultant superintendent, presented the preliminary budget. His draft estimate budget was $1,237,123. The total Andover will need to raise was $1,033,737. There was general agreement that he had been thorough in preparing this budget. There was also general agreement that the mill rate would go up about 6 points.

Rather than discuss whether or not spending more money would achieve their goals of providing an excellent education to Andover students by keeping Andover Elementary School open, the general discussion I heard was dominated by the following:

Newry is going to withdraw from SAD 44. Therefore, all the remaining towns, including Andover if it stays, are going to have to spend a lot more local money.

There are plans to build a new Telstar High School.

Both of these were being discussed as "done deals" and would cause Andover's share of the SAD budget to increase significantly. The conclusion was that Andover might as well spend the same amount of money and be independent.

There was no response by the Andover Withdrawal committee about the likelihood, or not, of a Newry withdrawal. I do not personally believe that a Newry withdrawal is a credible and imminent outcome.

No one in the audience, and no one on the Andover Withdrawal committee, addressed the new high school other than to say it's going to be built.

There are absolutely no plans, nor have there been any discussions about building a new high school. SAD 44 has a capital plan for maintenance and has been investing in upgrading air quality and making the school more energy efficient.

I believe that if Andover residents conclude that they are going to benefit their students and their town by spending over $1,000,000 to be on their own rather than the current $634,601 ($494,601, Andover's local assessment and $140,000 extra to keep Andover Elementary School open) that's their right and decision. But I hope they will not be influenced by the unfounded fears of increased costs from a new high school and Newry withdrawal.

During this process there have been accusations that the SAD 44 Withdrawal Committee wasn't negotiating in good faith and that we were delaying in responding to Andover's proposals. Those accusations were groundless but they unfortunately contributed to a climate of distrust and dislike of SAD 44.

I'm sad to report that at this public meeting a member of the Andover Withdrawal Committee characterized the additional funds that Andover has paid SAD 44 in the past few years to keep Andover Elementary School open, as "ransom."

The SAD 44 Board of Directors has responsibly and thoughtfully deliberated on keeping Andover Elementary School open or to close it. The discussion revolved around a combination of the costs of keeping the school open and the improved educational opportunities for students if they go to a larger school like Crescent Park. It's been a difficult decision for all board members and I think it's offensive to call it a "ransom."

I respectfully ask the Andover Withdrawal Committee to provide a full and accurate analysis of financial implications of withdrawal including a realistic assessment of Newry's withdrawal and to refute the rumors about a new high school.

I also request that members of the committee treat the SAD 44 Board with due respect and cease publicly treating us as adversaries. The SAD 44 Board's vision is all about students – each and every decision. I believe that is also what is driving Andover residents. Everything and Every Decision!

Marcel Polak
Woodstock

(Ed. note: Polak is a member of both the SAD 44 School Board and the board's Withdrawal Committee, which negotiated the withdrawal agreement with Andover. He read a statement similar to the above letter at Monday's School Board meeting.)

CORRECTION

A CARING COMMUNITY-A letter in last week's Citizen expressing thanks for support for Cody Bean should have said, "We are blessed to live in such a caring community." The Citizen regrets the error.

The Bethel Citizen

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BASE WITHDRAWAL VIEWS ON KNOWLEDGE

To the Editor:

As I sit here trying to write this letter I am scared. I'm scared as a business owner in town because I do not want to lose customers because my opinion may differ from someone else's, but I am even more scared as an Andover resident, a taxpayer and mom, to NOT write this letter.

The upcoming vote on Jan. 7 to withdraw or not withdraw from SAD 44 is the most emotional issue I have ever encountered in this town. I grew up on a dairy farm in Andover, attended Andover Elementary School as well as Telstar, and now I have the privilege of serving people in this town and surrounding communities every day (except Mondays) at the Diner.

As the owner of the Little Red Hen, I get the unique opportunity to hear both sides of the school withdrawal debate. I hear the elderly people in town who are on fixed incomes who are scared they won't be able to pay their taxes if they increase at least 40 percent, as proposed by the budget, if approved. I hear the concern of young families in town, families who want the school to stay open, but who are also not going to be able to pay their taxes if they go up. I hear the opinions of the Save our School group, who want the Andover school to stay open no matter what the cost. I can understand and agree with each person's argument – to a point.

I understand it's almost impossible to take EMOTION out of the equation, but I urge people to try. The fact of the matter is taxes will go up no matter which way the town votes. Andover is in the position to decide how much they will go up. As a business owner and a mom of young children, I understand the importance of a budget, of cutting costs, and of living within one's means. It is important for people in town to realize ALL of our options. We do not have to withdraw from SAD 44 to keep the Andover school open. As a former school board member, I understand the Board's decision to close the school. I know that when crunching numbers it does not make financial sense for them to keep AES open. I also understand that if Andover does not want to close the school we are being asked to help pay the extra costs to keep it open. These "extra" monies that we have paid the last few years go towards maintenance of the Andover school, transportation and the Andover teachers' salaries. It is not "ransom money" as some have implied. We can continue to help pay the extra money if we choose to. Paying this extra money, while irritating to some, is a much less expensive way for our kids to be able to continue being educated in Andover.

I understand some people feel it would be better for the town to have control over its own money and taxes and, to that end, they feel leaving the district is the right choice. I'm not in any way saying anyone's opinion is better or right or wrong. There are many different opinions, which is why we vote.

Change comes hard to many people. Please don't let the fear of the unknown weigh in on your decision. If you are a parent of a child now attending school in Andover, I challenge you, BEFORE the vote in January, to visit other schools in the area. Take your child on a tour of Crescent Park or Meroby or Rumford Elementary. Form your opinions based on real knowledge – not scare tactics or someone else's stories.

It seems there are many things up in the air about whether or not withdrawal is a good idea. People are currently losing jobs in the area because of the mill, state funding for schools is declining, and real budget numbers are not going to be accurate at first. Andover is a wonderful place to live and will be with or without the school. It is the people in our community that make it great. Whatever the outcome is on Jan. 7, we cannot let this decision drive a wedge between us and our neighbors.

Melissa Smith
Andover

SUPPORT COATS AND TOYS FOR KIDS

To the Editor:

This year, like in years past, the Telstar chapter of the National Honor Society is sponsoring a Coats and Toys for Kids Drive in the Bethel area. We really need everyone's help to have success in an event like this. Acceptable donations for the coat drive can include used coats and winter wear that is in good condition. We ask that toy donations only be new toys. Donation boxes will be set up in the Telstar, Crescent Park, Woodstock and Andover school offices as well as various community churches. Both of these events will end on Friday, Dec. 20. These donations will really brighten someone's Christmas season and anyone can come in and donate!

Zac Wheeler, for the THS National Honor Society

NATIVITY CASTING CALL

To the Editor:

It is that time of the year again in which we as a community celebrate the Christmas season in many ways'— Country Christmas in Bethel, school programs, church services, caroling, business and family open houses, and the annual Living Nativity, presented on the Common by the people of the community. It is a wonderful opportunity that this community still affords itself, to quietly remember the foundational meaning of Christmas amidst all the hustle and bustle of everything else that has become part of the celebration. How refreshing. How appropriate. What a joyful thing to gather the community around for at this special season of the year.

So, this is the annual call to all who would like to get involved in the presentation again (or for the first time) this year. It takes a lot of people to "pull it off," as we would like to include everyone. We need shepherds, wise men, angels (big and small) and others who can work together with others to fill the cast. We also need community choir members who will sing in the gazebo. Finally, we are also in need of animals (the four-legged kind), sheep, goats, cows or any farm animals. If anyone would like to be involved at any of these levels, preparation will begin at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 22, at the Bethel Inn Conference Center. So. come, don a costume, grab a shepherd's staff, put on a king's crown, or grow some angel wings and a halo (if for but a short time). We also need a crowd to watch, listen and sing, so come and be part of this special community expression Christmas celebration. The presentation will begin at 5 p.m. on the common, next to the gazebo.

If anyone has questions, or would like to let us know of willingness to help in advance, please call (or leave a message) at 824-2289, Bethel Alliance Church. We'll see everyone on the Bethel Common on December 22. Merry Christmas!

For more information, call me at 824-2715 or Nancy Bellinger at 824-4567.

Drew Webster
Chair, Living Nativity

COME SING AT THE LIVING NATIVITY

To the Editor:

Once again I have been asked to direct the choir for the Living Nativity which is to be held Sunday, Dec. 22, 2013 at 5 p.m. on the common in Bethel. I have done this for the past three years or so, and this year I wanted to ask that the folks that plan to join us to sing please come to the Bethel Inn Conference Center to rehearse prior to the performance at 4 p.m. In years past only a few singers come ahead of time to practice and several folks just show up at 5 to perform. This year I would like to encourage everyone that wants to sing to come in advance to warm up your voices, get familiar with the order of the music, the number of verses we will be singing and to work on a little harmony if possible. This is not to say that you can't just show up at 5 if there is no way to come early, but I think we could perform the entire nativity better if we went over everything in advance. We only do this once a year and remembering exactly what happens when from year to year is not easy.

I would also like to extend an invitation to everyone in the community who likes to sing to join us. We need voices, especially male voices (not to say I don't want the female ones) to sing the bass and tenor lines and the more singers we have, the better we will sound. Please take a couple of hours on a Sunday afternoon and join us. The songs we sing are familiar to all such as "The First Noel," "Oh Come all Ye Faithful," and so on.

The performing of this Living Nativity in Bethel has been done every year for more than 50 years now. It is a wonderful tradition and the town and its people should be proud of this accomplishment. Please consider helping with it either by joining the choir or volunteering to be a shepherd, or an angel or even a king! They can always use people and live (under control) animals. I hope to see you all either in the performance or watching on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 5 p.m. on the Bethel Common. You can call me with any questions at 875-2522 during the daytime or 824-0299 in the evening.

Ellen Whitney
Bethel

BUY A MUG, GET FREE COFFEE, SUPPORT TMS

To the Editor:

Please support Telstar Middle School PTA and get free Dunkin' Donuts Coffee every Sunday for a year.

Buy a Dunkin' Donuts Community Mug for $20. Bring it to any DD stores in Maine (also Coos and Carroll counties in New Hampshire) and receive a free Dunkin' Donuts hot coffee each Sunday through Dec. 31, 2014. One hundred percent of the proceeds will benefit Telstar Middle School.

Mugs will be for sale at The Root Cellar and Four Season Realty in Bethel, or contact by e-mail: Tonya Prentice at prentict@sad44.org or Tracy Walker walkertr@sad44.org, or by phone:665-2228.

Thanks for your support!

Tracy Walker, for the Telstar Middle School P.T.A.

See *Celladore* on Page 20

Our Back Pages

By Danna Brown Nickerson

10 years ago: A tractor trailer truck loaded with 45,000 pounds of yeast rolled over on the sharp turn in Bryant Pond village.

Telstar's annual Winter Concert, featuring the Middle School chorus and band, the High School chorus and Concert Band, was held in the Helen C. Berry Auditorium.

Deaths: Earle Stephens Noyes, Julia Billings Brown.

20 years ago: For the fourth year in a row, "Wood and Wood Products" magazine listed Bethel Furniture Stock as one of its "Wood 100."

The Newry Mothers Club held their Christmas potluck supper meeting at the Town Building with nine members and two guests present.

Births: Noah Zebulon Morton, Victoria Louise Gordon, Kurt Jonathan Morgan, Logan Hastings Bancroft Boucher, Stacey Ann Russell, Stevie Ray Bond, Jr.

Deaths: Cora G. Johnson, Eugenia Shorrock, Ronald J. Perry

30 years ago: Nearly 300 elementary students from Ethel Bisbee and Crescent Park Schools entertained family and friends at a winter concert program.

More than 200 concerned citizens of Bethel and surrounding towns attended a meeting at Bear River Grange Hall about the possibility of a low-level nuclear waste dump in Riley Plantation.

Deaths: Etta L. Morris, Mrs. Alice L. Varney.

40 years ago: No injuries were reported when a wood truck operated by Gordon Billings of Bryant Pond collided with a Canadian National Railroad train at the crossing near Newton-Tebbets Co. in West Bethel.

The first snowstorm of the season came Dec. 16, followed by sleet and freezing rain, making driving conditions hazardous.

Deaths: Willie C. Yates, George Westleigh, Sr.

50 years ago: Mr. and Mrs. David Thompson entertained Gould Academy faculty at their home for a pre-Christmas carol sing and get together.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Palmer on the East Bethel-Locke Mills road was destroyed by fire. The loss was estimated at $1,400.

Births: David Christopher Wilmer, Penny Bean, David Richard Schleich.

Deaths: Scott Allen Hibbard, Albert Sicotte, Cyrus Durgin, Elmer Parker, Dennis Swan.

60 years ago: Seventy-eight persons attended a banquet and dance celebrating the 25th anniversary of Charter Night of the Bethel Lions Club.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Perkins and family moved to the W. F. Clark house on Mason Street which they had recently purchased.

Births: Carol Richardson, Sara Gail (Sally) Lawler.

Deaths: George E. King, Mrs. Florence Farwell, Edward Hooper, Fanny G. Neal.

70 years ago: A cold wave struck town with temperatures ranging from 15 to 38 below zero. Snow made traveling difficult.

Death: John W. Kimball.

80 years ago: The addition which served as an office at Lord's Garage was removed. Construction was started on a roof to extend over the gas pumps.

Rev. Elwin Parlin accepted a call to serve the Methodist Church, Iron Mountain, Mich.

Death: Fred Kilgore, Norway.

90 years ago: Mr. and Mrs. Fred Clark went to Vero, Fla.

T. B. Burke shipped a car load of cattle to Auburn.

Bethel Grange held a fair. Quite a good sum of money was realized.

Deaths: Mrs. Mary Morrill, Guy Buck, Sherwood Buck.

100 years ago: The Bethel Water Company completed the cement reservoir on Paradise Hill. The reservoir holds 600,000 gallons. It has a nine inch thick cement cover which is covered by six inches of earth.

J. A. Twaddle purchased several hundred acres of valuable timberland in the towns of Gilead, Mason and Bethel.

The operetta "Mikado" was presented in town by the Brunswick Club of Brunswick.

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THANKS FROM ROOSTER'S

To the Editor:

The generosity of our customers and dedicated staff throughout 2013 has been amazing. Through fundraising efforts at the Oscar Party, the July Fourth River Float, the Holiday Customer Appreciation Party and various other things throughout the year, you have helped us raise more for Children's Charities this year than ever before. We appreciate your help in this effort, and we know that many local children will be the beneficiaries of your generosity. We have made the following donations this Holiday Season, totaling an amazing $6,000:

- $2,500 to the Bethel Rotary's "Christmas for Children" Program (note: $150 previously donated after the River Float in July)
- $2,500 to Nina Wheeler's Grassroots "Christmas for Families" Program
- $500 to the Mahoosuc Kids Association
- $500 to the Cromwell Center for Disabilities Awareness – earmarked to support two educational programs this school year, or next, in SAD 44 elementary school classrooms

We have a few weeks left in the year, and our efforts continue...We may be able to make additional donations to children's causes this year, and we are ready to begin raising money for similar causes to be donated in 2014.

Thank you again. All the best for the Holiday Season and on into the New Year!

Steve and Gary
Rooster's Roadhouse

THANKS

Continued from page 1

Anthony Morin and his daughters went outside during that time to get the family Christmas tree.

They heard John's calls and rushed next door.

"He was calm and said he needed help getting up, but it was more serious than that," said Anthony.

John had been there long enough that his clothing was frozen to the ground. The Morins also discoverd he was bleeding from his head.

They called 911.

"We put our jackets and some we found in his house on him, and some blankets, to keep him warm," said Anthony.

Bethel Rescue arrived quickly, said Anthony. They took John, who was hypothermic, to Stephens Memorial Hospital. He has since been transferred to Rumford Community Hospital.

Edleen said doctors are waiting for the swelling in his neck to go down before deciding whether surgery will be needed.

In the meantime, said Edleen, "Each day I see him there's a big difference. He can use his hands now, and he stood up the other day."

"That's awesome," said Anthony on hearing the news.

"Thank God for good neighbors," said Edleen. "I am so grateful."

STUDENTS

Continued from page 1

with your education past high school?" the students answered in unison with an immediate "yes."

Asked what advice they would give to members of Telstar's junior class, who are being offered the opportunity to attend CMCC next year, Doyle said, "It's such a great opportunity, even if you weren't planning to go to college, that I would say go for it, because it never hurts to have college credits."

Barter added, "When you go to college it's up to you to either sit up front, or sit in back, and if you sit up front, you're learning, and you meet the best people."

"You are an inspiration to us, and to your fellow classmates," said Bethel director Frank DelDuca. "You also have given your parents a great gift by being successful young people, and I commend you for that. Thank you for raising our school to a new standard."

Following the students' presentation, Superintendent David Murphy announced that contributions to the program by Project Opportunity and Sunday River will make it possible for the district to reimburse the participants for the full cost of their textbooks for the fall semester. Murphy's announcement drew applause from board members, as well as the students and their families.

In other business Monday, the board unanimously approved three percent raises for each of the next three years for Accountant Cynthia Moxcey, Administrative Assistant/HR Coordinator Robin Gundersen, and Murphy.

Murphy's contract was extended by one year, through 2019, and he will be allowed to carry over some unused vacation days, receive a life insurance contribution, and be eligible for a partial sick leave buy back option upon retirement. He will also be asked to provide the board with a one-year notice of retirement. His current salary is approximately $111,600.

The votes came following executive sessions by the board.

Hanscom to facilitate grant

Directors also approved classifying the Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF) Grant Facilitator as a secretary II position. Telstar secretary Wendy Hanscom will transition in January to the new position, which is funded for four years as part of the grant the district received through the Maine Schools for Excellence (MSFE) program.

Celebrate His Birth

These local churches welcome you through their doors this joyous holiday season to join in fellowship and warm your heart with the word of God.

Bethel Alliance Church
251 Walker's Mills Road (across from Telstar parking lot) Call 207-824-2289 FMI

December 22: 5:00 p.m. Living Nativity on the Bethel Common. Join us for a living presentation of the birth of Jesus and songs of the season. All are welcome!

December 24: 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

Parish of the Holy Savior
126 Maine Avenue
Rumford, ME 04276
207-364-4556
December 24th
4:00pm St. Athanasius & St. John, Rumford (Children's Mass)
6:30pm Our Lady of the Snows, Bethel
10:00pm St. A & St. John, Rumford (with adult choir)
December 25th
9:30am St. A & St. John, Rumford (with adult choir)

The West Bethel Union Church
Route 2, West Bethel • 836-2925.
Will hold it's Annual Candelight Festival of Lessons & Carols on **Sunday, December 22nd at 7:00PM** with special musical performances from vocalists and musicians from around the region and choir.
The service is highlighted by 8 Lessons, read by members of the congregation, accompanied by carols and anthems.
Join us in the spirit of Christmas!

Would You Like To Win
$10,000
Yup, thought you would say that!
Here is how to win, stop by Gourmet in a Pinch (on Route 2) and buy a Sunday River Ski and Snowboard Club Big Raffle ticket. $100 per ticket. Only 500 will be sold. Drawing December 29th at Barker Lodge. Do not need to be present to win.
Lots of great second place prizes too!
The Big Raffle
SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB · SUNDAY RIVER ·
A non-profit supporting local winter athletes. For more info, or to join the fun, please go to www.sundayriverskiclub.com

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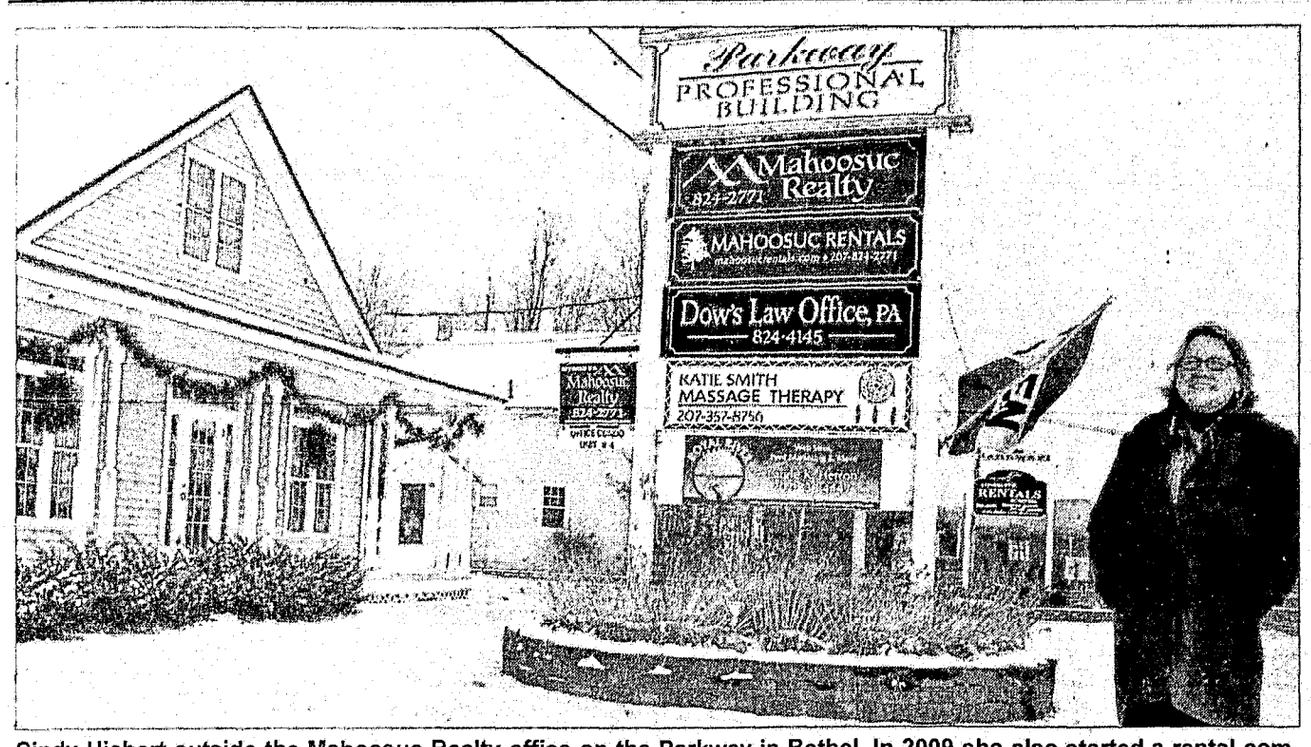
REAL ESTATE

Continued from page 1



Cindy Hiebert outside the Mahoosuc Realty office on the Parkway in Bethel. In 2009 she also started a rental company, Mahoosuc Rentals, which she said ties into real estate sales and is a service Mahoosuc can offer to clients and customers. *A. Aloisio*

for advancement in Rangeley. But in the family-run real estate office where she worked, they weren't there.

Then she heard from her brother, Peter Kailey, that Wendy Penley was interested in selling her Bethel real estate business, Mahoosuc Realty.

"it was a Wednesday," she recalls. "On Thursday I had a closing in Portland, a three-hour drive, so I had a lot of time to think about it. That night I called Wendy. We agreed to meet on Sunday, and we worked up a deal.

"My husband, Mark, and I felt like it was the right thing to do. Our roots are here, and there was a lot going on at the mountain (Sunday River). And we knew it was a good place to raise our family."

When she arrived in Bethel, there was one broker in the Mahoosuc office. And the market was different from Rangeley, where snowmobilers made up much of the second-home market.

"The prices were a lot lower here at the time," said Hiebert. "There were not many vacation homes."

But things were about to pick up.

"Meade (Paper Co. in Rumford) was hiring, and ASC (the American Skiing Co., Sunday River's parent company at the time) executives were buying homes," she said.

And technology was starting to make a contribution. Mahoosuc got its first website through dial-up Internet. And updates from the Maine Listing Service (the statewide list of properties) because available weekly on a floppy disk.

Another logistical gain was the arrival of one-hour photo developing at the new Rite Aid store. Photos of properties didn't have to wait for mail-away developing.

On the market front, the second home market in Bethel really began to take off in 2002 and 2003, Hiebert said.

"A lot of subdivisions were starting,' she said.

Mahoosuc was also adding more agents, and in 2003 moved from Main Street in Bethel to its current location on the Parkway.

And business continued to prosper.

"In 2005 a lot of people bought into the second phase of Powder Ridge (in Newry)," said Hiebert. "We were really busy with a lot of sales and pre-sales during that time. A lot of investors were coming into the area who were also skiers."

At that point, she said, "an ad in the Boston Globe got tons of calls. It was a way of getting it out there before people used the Internet a lot."

But then Internet use exploded, as more people got online and were able to select search criteria for properties.

"It allowed them to focus more," she said.

As for communicating price changes to potential customers, "automatic e-mails with changes were sent out to them," she said.

Sales contracts could also be handled by e-mail. Closings could generally take place more quickly, with many moving from 90 days to 30 to 45 days.

As the speed of business was accelerating in 2008, the national economy crashed, triggered in part by an overinflated real estate market.

But that wasn't the case in Bethel, Hiebert said.

"I don't feel like our prices got inflated," she said. "So property was still moving."

Another factor was the move by some investors from the stock market to the real estate market.

"It was something they could use, and rent," she said.

Since that time the market has been steadily improving, said Hiebert.

Today, she said, "there are more single-family homes than condos that are being bought and sold."

She believes the real estate market here is helped by "a more healthy environment," which she attributes to Sunday River snowmaking.

"People are comfortable because they're going to have the best ski conditions," she said.

In 2010 Mahoosuc took another big step, merging with Ron Savage's Bethel Realty. Hiebert became partners with Savage.

"It's been a really good partnership. We both respect each other's work ethic," she said.

Today there are 10 agents at Mahoosuc.

Hiebert plans to keep going strong into the foreseeable future.

"I'm not ready to retire," she said. "There are going to be a couple of new subdivisions in the next couple of years and I want to be a part of that. And I still find it exciting to come to work every day. You never know who's going to call or walk through the door - or e-mail or text."

Briefly

Crash sends two to hospital

BETHEL-A three-car accident on Route 26 in Bethel Friday afternoon sent two people to the hospital. Oxford County Deputy Sheriff Nate Bowie said that James Bebko, 73, of Bethel, and Celia Broomhall, 59, of Gilead, were taken by Bethel Rescue ambulance to Stephens Memorial Hospital in Norway after the 4 p.m. accident. Bowie said Broomhall suffered chest and leg injuries, while Bebko suffered back injuries. A black Labrador retriever in Bebko's car suffered leg and back injuries and was taken to the Bethel Animal Hospital. Route 26 was shut down, backing up traffic substantially, Bowie said. Additionally, Broomhall's car was smoking and there was a lot of debris in the road, and fluids leaking from two vehicles. Bowie praised Bethel firefighters for their quick response and assistance in opening a single lane to disperse traffic. The accident happened near Gaudreau's Repairs, which towed all three vehicles.

BAR

Continued from page 1

men said they did not think the board had a legal basis to deny the application. The board uses state law as a guide for liquor applications. Among reasons to deny are previous convictions of the applicant for certain crimes; noncompliance of the premises or its use with local zoning or other land use ordinances; a record of waste disposal, health, safety or other violations; and repeated incidents of breaches of the peace, disorderly conduct or vandalism.

Boughter said none of those reasons applied to him. "I'm a well-decorated, honorably-discharged U.S. Army veteran who doesn't have so much as a speeding ticket," he said.

He said it was "not ethical" for the board to consider anything else beyond the state requirements in making a decision. Tying it to another agency, like MDOT, he said, "is irrelevant. The guidelines set forth for that liquor license are plainly spelled out."

He went on to say the two week delay on the license made his business plan unworkable. With the ski season getting into full swing, said Boughter, he was counting on being able to be open for Christmas and New Year's.

"That's when the majority of customers, especially the ones up on the mountain going skiing, start getting into the groove of where they want to go," he said. "I believe that the reason it was pushed, and it was tabled, was to get the effect that you got. The project isn't happening right now."

Contractors had been lined up to get the building ready, he said, if the board had approved the license Dec. 3.

"What the three of you did was force me to table a decision," he said. "You've set a precedent that simply says that Greenwood isn't open for business."

Selectman Amy Chapman disagreed that "taking an extra two weeks to do 'due diligence' is extreme." She said the board had 60 days to act on the license.

"We don't just work for people who want to put a business in the town. We work for the people in the town," she said. "Every person who approached me and every person, I believe, who came to the meeting had concerns and negative opinions. For us to just say, 'sweep them out the door,' and give him the permit, when we could take two weeks and find out if DOT and our attorney had anything to say about it - I think that was appropriate."

Board Chair Fred Henderson was skeptical that the two week delay had such a dramatic effect.

"So waiting two weeks killed the whole thing - unbelievable," he said.

But Boughter said the days on which the holidays fall this year would have made for longer weekends to draw business. "The two weeks definitely pushed me out," he said.

Selectman Arnie Jordan, who Boughter singled out particularly for his comments two weeks ago about the safety of the driveway, said he had a clear conscience for wanting to look into the issue before signing the license. "I'm not ashamed of what I have done," he said.

The board did not get to a discussion of information from MDOT because Boughter dropped his request for the liquor license.

Town Manager Kim Sparks said after the meeting that MDOT told her Boughter would have had to obtain an entrance permit application.

"MDOT said that they felt it would warrant a new application, as they felt that there would be more traffic generated from the bar versus a gem shop," she said.

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The Way I See It

By Sharon Bouchard

I've been working on fulfilling the Christmas wish lists of family members, especially the grandkids. The lists have been quite reasonable other than a few pie-in-the-sky items that the kids know they'll never get.

In spite of the consideration to my meager budget, the gifts under the Christmas tree will be far fewer than in years past. I guess I'll be making a lot of candy and other goodies this year. I know that my family, including the grandkids will be just as happy no matter what they receive for presents; therefore, I'm coping quite well with the fact that I can't do things like I used to.

As I often remind people, it's not what's under the Christmas tree that is important; it's who is around the tree that counts. This year I will certainly take those words to heart.

I have a Christmas wish list of my own that is way more pie-in-the-sky than the grandkids and will probably never be fulfilled, but they are nice wishes nonetheless and I'd like to share them with you.

Peace on earth and good will towards men and women and children is at the top of the list. I know this is a wish that will never come true, but at least during the holiday season it comes a little closer.

Other than Black Friday when people are knocking each other over to get to the latest video game or big screen television that's on sale I do think people are a little nicer to each other during the holiday season. The news is filled with heart-warming stories of strangers leaving huge tips in restaurants or paying off a bunch of lay-aways and other stories of random acts of kindness.

Yes, there is always going to be the usual bunch of murder and mayhem that goes on every day, but some people go out of their way to create a few Christmas miracles for others.

Sometimes Christmas wishes can come true

I wish for good health and prosperity, not only for those I love but for everyone. Another wish that can't be fulfilled, but there are some things happening that will provide help for some. There are medical breakthroughs that save lives happening all the time and there do seem to be a few more jobs than there were a year ago providing a little more income.

Here's a wish that is probably the most unrealistic, but one that actually could happen, though I doubt it will in my lifetime. I wish the government operated for the citizens of this country rather than for self-interest and partisan politics.

If our elected officials stopped playing war games with each other, stopped sending billions of dollars to other countries, stopped answering primarily to their big donors and started to work on making life easier for those of us who elect them, just imagine how much better things would be.

Another pie-in-the-sky wish is that the big oil companies would start putting people before profits. I don't have an issue with businesses making a decent profit; after all, that's why they're in business. But companies having record breaking profits quarter after quarter while people are shivering in their homes just isn't right.

I wish there was no need for food pantries or soup kitchens and everyone would have ample food in their homes or for that matter homes period.

I know I'm just dreaming, but it never hurts to dream or wish for a better life for everyone.

My last wish is that I wish for all of you to have a wonderful and Merry Christmas and the way I see it sometimes Christmas wishes can come true and I sincerely hope they do for you.

DEC 19 2013

OCSD Patrol Log

Tuesday, Dec. 10

At 10:37 a.m. a report was received of a gas driveoff on Railroad Street in Bethel. Deputy Willie Nelson was assigned.

Wednesday, Dec. 11

At 6:54 p.m. a report was received of telephone harassment in Bethel. The suspect was contacted and warned.

Thursday, Dec. 12

At 12:41 p.m. a complaint was received from a Bethel landlord of harassing phone calls and texts from tenants, who reportedly had a history of harassing people. Sgt. Tim Holland was assigned.

Saturday, Dec. 14

At 10:13 a.m. a Bethel business owner on Mechanic Street reported the business had been broken into during the overnight. It was reported cash was stolen, along with damage to a door and the cash register. Deputy Mike Halacy was assigned and an investigation is underway.

At 6:22 p.m. Deputy Peter Casey and Trooper Jason Wing stopped a car on Route 2 in Bethel, after an off-duty State Police supervisor was following a vehicle into Bethel and suspected the occupants of using drugs while driving. The stop rendered drugs and drug paraphernalia. A case was pending with five subjects involved.

At 8:38 p.m. Deputy Peter Casey and Trooper Jason Wing conducted a bail check on a local Bethel subject, in accordance with his conditions of release. A criminal investigation was pending.

Sunday, Dec. 15

At 9:35 a.m. Deputy Richard Murray was advised of a subject using a stolen credit card at a Route 2 business in Bethel. The subject was spooked and left the store. A store employee followed and alerted the deputy of his location. Two subjects were issued a criminal summons for theft.

At 4:42 p.m. Deputy Dave Hodgson responded to an accident on Route 2 at the Parkway in Bethel. A vehicle turning onto the Parkway was hit by a plow truck that did not stop.

Monday, Dec. 16

Over a two-hour period Deputy Andy Whitney responded to several incidents of vehicles off the road in Mayville in Bethel.

This report highlights points of interest from the Oxford County Sheriff's Department Bethel Patrol log. It lists cases reported in the log of adults being arrested or issued a summons in the 10 days prior to the newspaper's publication, but does not include all reports of activity, such as routine speeding tickets and other civil violations. To reach the OCSD, call 911 in emergency situations, 824-3437 in non-emergencies.

Holt-Andrews 10th in national race

Telstar's Josef Holt-Andrews crosses the finish line in the Foot Locker National Cross Country Championships in San Diego Saturday. He placed 10th. *PhotoRun.net*

By Justin Pelletier,
Sun Media Wire

Josef Holt-Andrews had Saturday circled on his calendar for a while.

Now the senior runner from Telstar Regional High School will have plenty of positive memories from Saturday's event etched in his mind for years to come.

Holt-Andrews hung with the lead pack for better than two miles and catapulted past Alex Ostberg of Darien High School of Connecticut with a final sprint to capture 10th place at the Foot Locker National Cross Country Championships in San Diego, earning All-America status.

"That was kind of the goal, I was hoping for the best I could," Holt-Andrews said, "but top 10 was the overall goal."

The race pitted 10 runners from each of four regions against one another at Morley Field in Balboa Park.

"It went out nice," Holt-Andrews said. "We were pretty much all together through the first two miles, and then it kind of broke away after two-and-a-quarter and I couldn't hang on. But I managed to keep grinding and put in a little surge at the end to pass one guy and get in the top 10."

That "one guy," Ostberg, had finished ahead of Holt-Andrews at the Northeast regional.

Holt-Andrews was the second finisher from the Northeast region, behind Mickey Burke of Rush Henrietta High School in Henrietta, N.Y.

"I'm not worried about the time mostly, just about the place," Holt-Andrews said. "I feel like, I would have liked a little faster, but, it is what it is now."

His time of 15 minutes, 30 seconds was only 23 off the pace of race winner Grant Fisher of Michigan.

"My coach (Dan Crooker) made sure I didn't peak too early and that I was going to be ready for today," Holt-Andrews said. "I didn't really taper at all through states or anything like that, which helped a lot.

"This is a really long season, especially in Maine because we get started so early," Holt-Andrews added. "Our season's really short compared to schools in like California or something. So it's definitely hard balancing certain workouts and making sure you're not in too good a shape early so you don't run well at meets like this."

Holt-Andrews was part of an impressive contingent of three Maine runners at this year's event. Daniel Curts of Ellsworth finished 19th overall in 15:44, while in the girls' race, Greely High School's Kirstin Sandreuter placed 20th in 18:08.

The runners from Maine were running out of their element, too — it was warm outside.

"It didn't bother me too much, I actually enjoy some heat," Holt-Andrews said. "But it definitely messed with my body a little bit. After the race, I had a pretty good headache and stuff.

"My body noticed it, but mentally it didn't affect me at all."

After his performance, Holt-Andrews had a chance to reflect a bit on his accomplishment, and he had time to think about his next step.

"A few days off," he said with a laugh. "After that, I'll probably target a few big meets during indoor track, and then try to hit indoor nationals. And then my big goal in outdoor track, and probably my final big goal in high school is outdoor nationals."

Now in his final year at Telstar, Holt-Andrews hasn't yet committed to a college. "I've been talking to a couple schools pretty heavily," he said. "This should open up a few more opportunities.

Bethel

By NANCY BROWN

Last Thursday night I attended the play "It's a Wonderful Life" at Telstar Regional High School. The 1946 film is one of my favorite holiday films. Sometimes it is hard to adapt a beloved movie to the stage, but the Telstar High School Theater Department did a great job. The actors were letter perfect and the timing was spot-on, with the cast and crew making a series of seamless set changes. The sets and costumes evoked the period of the 1930s and 1940s. The production did not disappoint the audience, who gave the cast and a crew a standing ovation.

Down East magazine has a new feature called "The Menu." Each month the magazine reviews a Maine restaurant and comments on some of the favorite menu items from the restaurant. The December featured restaurant is The Jolly Drayman Pub in Bethel. "Whether you go for fish and chips or curry, you can be sure it's part of an authentic pub experience," commented Down East. "We call ourselves a conversation place," owner Cindy Coughenour told the magazine. "It's a place where strangers or friends like to come and talk and have a really great time." You can buy a copy of Down East at the Bethel Foodliner or read a copy at the Bethel Library.

The first major snow storm of the year left more than a foot of snow on Bethel on Sunday. By sunset the snow had stopped and the sky was clearing. The light powdery snow was perfect

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for the first snow shoeing of the season. I spent an hour at the end of the day snow shoeing the old logging roads near my house, hoping to see some deer. The most I saw were rabbit and bird tracks. I make too much noise in the woods to see much wildlife; my snow shoes crunch too loudly (even in the powdery snow), my ski poles squeak, and I'm usually breathing loudly. If you haven't tried snowshoeing, this is a perfect time. Snow shoes are not very expensive, but you might want to rent first to see if you like the sport. There are several places in the Bethel area that have snow shoe trails and rent snowshoes, including Carter's XC, Bethel Inn, and Sunday River.

East Bethel

By CHERRI CROCKETT

Hello neighbors, I hope this week finds you all well after the nice snow storm over the weekend. My gosh, when the weather man said upwards of 14 inches, I didn't quite believe him, but he was right on the money, wasn't he! Now it's time to start snow shoeing all my usual walking routes with my dogs.

Of course, I'll have to gain permission from Arlene and Babe. I love making a nice loop out through Arlene's field and then crossing the road and trekking up through the tall pines back to Babe's house and back down through the intervals. It makes for a nice nature walk.

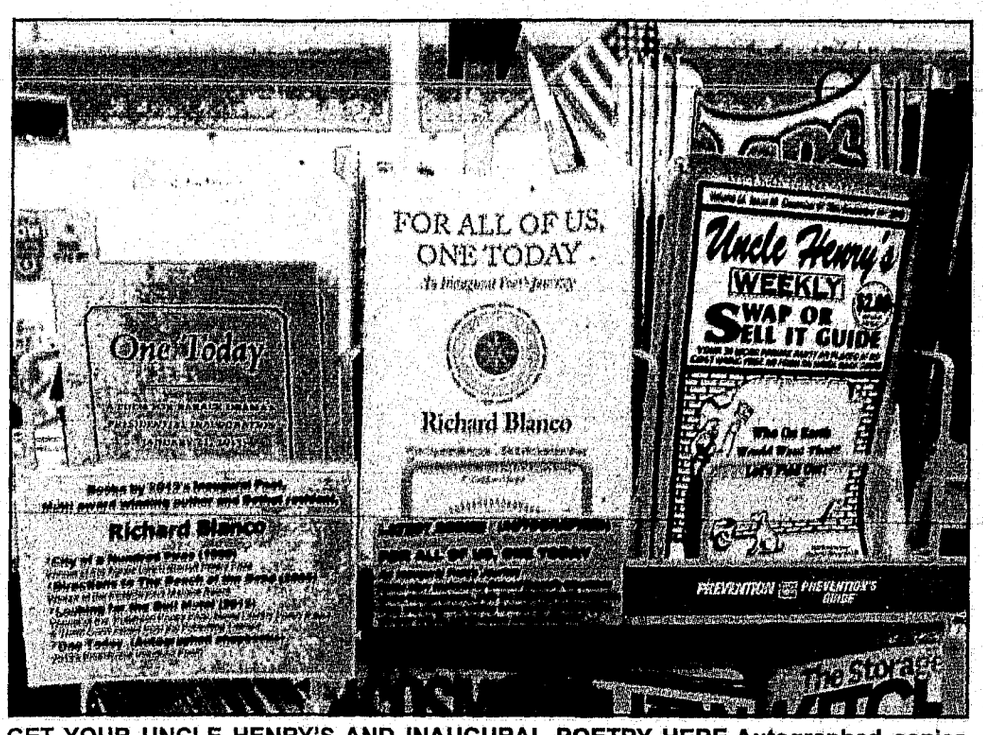
Are you all ready for your family gatherings on Christmas day? I know Esther Wilson had her Crockett Christmas celebration on Saturday, but Andy and I were already invited to another party, so we weren't present for the first time in 18 years. It felt very strange to not be there. But, I understand everyone enjoyed their time, especially the kids who get to play guessing games and bob for apples and win prizes, while the adults catch up.

Before we departed for our engagement, Andy and I had a nice surprise visit from James Haines on Saturday afternoon, as he was dropping information off from Barbara Honkala for the column. Barbara wanted to let those of you who remember your East Bethel Grammar School teacher, Miss Alta Brooks, from the 1930s and 40s you will be interested to know she celebrated her 100th birthday recently. She was still living at her home in South Portland, but recently, for her own safety and wellbeing, she has been moved to a nursing home. She has a private room decorated with her personal belongings to make it as homey as possible. And she is still sharp as a tack and has 20/20 vision. She would be thrilled to receive cards and letters from all who knew her. Send your greetings to Edith Alta Sturgis, Barron Center N312, 1145 Brighton Avenue, Portland, Maine 04102.

We're so close to the end of the year and the beginning of another, and it's at these times that we're reminded of all the moments of the year that brought smiles to our faces and tears to our hearts. I pray that over this next week, while you're celebrating the birth of Jesus, you are able to share your abundant blessings with those around you in a way that makes the last weeks of 2013 most memorable.

Be well and enjoy your Christmas day.

Please feel free to contact me via e-mail, brindlelabs@gmail.com or via phone, 357-3469 if you have any news you would like to share.



GET YOUR UNCLE HENRY'S AND INAUGURAL POETRY HERE-Autographed copies of Bethel poet Richard Blanco's latest book, "For All of Us, One Today - an Inaugural Poet's Journey" are available at the Bethel Foodliner (and also at Pok Sun Emporium, We've Got the Look and the Bethel Historical Society). As described on his website, the book is an account of his experiences as the inaugural poet in 2013. "He shares the story of the call from the White House committee and all the exhilaration and upheaval of the days that followed. For the first time, he reveals the inspiration and challenges—including his experiences as a Latino immigrant and gay man—behind the creation of the inaugural poem, 'One Today,' as well as two other poems commissioned for the occasion ('Mother Country' and 'What We Know of Country'), published here for the first time ever, alongside translations of all three of those poems into his native Spanish. Finally, Blanco reflects on his new role as a public voice, his vision for poetry's place in our nation's consciousness, his spiritual embrace of Americans everywhere, and his renewed understanding of what it means to be an American as a result of the inauguration." *A. Aloisio*

Gilead

By LIN CHAPMAN

Sunday afternoon and the snow keeps coming down! Winter isn't even officially here yet and I can't wait for spring to get here!

My brother, Steve McLain, decided it was time to get the plow on his truck and get ready for the big storm.

Carole Mason was here Sunday about midday to plow out our driveway.

The storm brought a lot of birds to the feeder. There were the usual ones, such as chickadees, goldfinches, mourning doves, blue jays and juncos. Early in the morning Mr. and Mrs. Cardinal arrived and shortly after that there were two more male cardinals that showed up. Usually it is just the pair that arrives.

Lise McLain attended the Seniors Club Christmas dinner at the Bethel Inn on Wednesday, Dec. 11. Elementary school children arrived at the Inn to sing Christmas carols to the seniors and did an outstanding job. Lise hand designed four necklaces and donated them to the Seniors Club as a fundraiser. New officers of the club were voted on at the meeting. Fran Head, formerly of Gilead, was chosen President and Lise was chosen Vice-President.

Robert and Judy Bishop were in Gilead last Saturday and stopped by the house. We had a very nice visit and did a little research for the Gilead Historical Society.

The GHS has had several favorable comments on how the schoolhouse and station look in the evening with the candles in the windows.

Town Office

Holiday hours for the Town Office and Transfer Station will be as follows. On Tuesday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve, both the Town Office and Transfer Station will be closed. On Tuesday, Dec. 31, New Years Eve, the Town Office will be open from 5 to 7 p.m. The Transfer Station will be open regular hours, 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday hours during the holidays are not affected.

Got any news? Call 836-2987 or e-mail chapmal@hotmail.com.

Locke's Mills

By Betsey Foster

More on the proposed Locke's Mills sports bar. The Maine Department of Transportation recently contacted Greenwood Town Manager Kim Sparks, and told her that the bar applicant, Tom Boughter of Waterford, will need to have an MDOT entrance permit before proceeding. They will be sending an official to examine the proposed site at the former gem shop on Main Street. MDOT has asked Mr. Boughter to contact them but had not heard from him at this writing.

Depending on where you stood and the angle of the measuring stick used, we received 12 to 14 inches of beautiful powder snow last Sunday. I know. I know. Beautiful is all in the eye of the beholder. As always, our town road crew did a great job on the roads.

Applications for free skiing at Mt. Abram are going out. Call the town office for one if you have children 4 to 18 who want to ski free once a month at Mt. A.

The days begin to get longer this Saturday, Dec. 21, the winter solstice. It's only a few seconds a day so don't get too excited.

We have now entered the time of uncertainty. When we make plans this time of year, those plans are couched with the qualifier "as long as weather permits." All activities are tentative for the next few months. And then there is the uncertainty of identification. Beneath all the hats, mittens, scarves, and heavy coats is it a person I know? Is it male or female? Who knows. I wave anyway knowing that we all need some cheer around now.

That brings me around to well-wishing for the season. Does it really matter whether someone says happy holidays, merry Christmas, or something else? Use whatever expression you want. Wish somebody well this season. Be a good human.

Merry Christmas to all.

Please send news to 3taichi6@gmail.com.

Albany

By KATHY BENNETT

What a beautiful landscape as Mother Nature provided us with a nice white blanket of snow to add to the festive feeling of the

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PHI 111-X1 Introduction to Ethics F 9:00-11:55AM
PSY 111-X1 Developmental Psychology R 5:30-8:25PM
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DEC 19 2013

Christmas Holiday.

It was a quiet week in Albany as everyone is busy shopping and getting ready for the big day.

School is buzzing like a beehive with all the activities. The fifth grade is getting ready to do a play for their parents on Thursday, Dec. 19. The student council is doing a food drive for the local food pantry.

Many of the plans I had for the weekend were put on hold due to the storm. Many thanks to the person who plowed out the end of the driveway for me. My car is all cleaned off and backed out; ready to go in the morning. It is a good thing this happened as Franklin's tractor is broken down! Now I will return to watch the end of the Patriots and Miami game.

Have a great week. God Bless.

SCOUTS DELIVER GIFTS AT VETS HOME-Bethel Troop 566 Den 2 traveled to The Maine Veterans Home in South Paris on Thursday afternoon Dec. 12th and hand delivered 90 stockings that were filled with goodies for them by the troop, leaders, and special helpers. Pictured are, seated: Darrin LeClair and Brandon McLean. Standing: Caleigh Thielbar (special helper), Shannan Thielbar (leader), Wyatt Thielbar, Morgan McLean (special helper), Tanner McLean, Linda Taylor (leader), Nolan Fowles, and "Larry," veteran helper. The boys said it was the best feeling they every had, and really had a great time seeing all of the residents and want to go visit them again.

Hanover

By MARIA HOLLOWAY

How beautiful are the early morning moon beams illuminating new fallen snow! With temperatures ranging from the teens to 15 degrees below zero, the Full Cold Moon lived up to its name this month. According to the Farmer's Almanac, the full moon names originated from the Native American Algonquin tribe who lived in the northeast region. Wednesday's Full Cold Moon represents the month when winter's cold "fastens its grip" and the nights become long and dark. Some native tribes also call it the Long Moon.

Hanover awoke to over a foot of light, fluffy snow on Sunday morning with another storm due in mid-week. Temperatures were in the teens and single digits, leaving roads and highways snow-covered for at least 24 hours presenting challenging driving conditions throughout the day, evening, and next morning. Despite the bitter cold, snow sports enthusiasts are happy and enjoying walking, snowshoeing, skiing and snowmobiling close to home.

The Stony Brook Variety Store officially opened for business last Saturday. This is the most exciting news to hit Hanover in a while. The "Open" flags are flying, welcoming you to step inside. Located at Stony Brook Recreation on Route 2 in Hanover, just a half mile east of Newry Corner, Stony Brook Variety has a wide selection of groceries, including milk, eggs, cheese and bread, hot and cold sandwiches, soups, pizza, coffee, muffins and more. There is limited seating for those who wish to stop and relax or catch up with neighbors and town happenings. You can also purchase newspapers, beer, wine and tobacco as well as pet food, LP gas and firewood. Please stop in and show your support. A convenience such as this is much needed and long-awaited in our town. Store hours are from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days a week and there is plenty of parking with easy in/out access. Watch for more information about this new venture in a future issue of the Citizen. Good luck to the Powells who have owned and managed Stony Brook Recreation for nearly 30 years – and thank you!

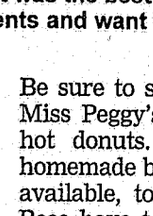
The Susburys have returned home safely after enjoying a Thanksgiving holiday with their daughter in Virginia. The Booths excitedly await the arrival of their children and grandchildren who will be staying with them for the Christmas holiday.

The Gardner Roberts Memorial Library will be closed for the holidays but will reopen again on Jan. 8, 2014. Be sure to stop by then for Miss Peggy's freshly baked hot donuts. Her delicious homemade baked beans will available, too. The Library Bees have temporarily suspended their Tuesday afternoon meetings at the library due to the busy holidays and cold temps. They will resume when the library reopens in January.

Got news, questions or comments? Please e-mail my new address: HanoverMEnews@gmail.com.

Andover

By JANE C. RICH



Christmas is Snow Valley on Saturday found people visiting the three venues for crafts, food, raffles and Santa's visit. Some of us didn't think there were as many people as the previous year and we attributed this to the approaching snow storm which sent those who hadn't completed their shopping to malls. At the First Congregational Church there were three raffles. The Christmas sleigh was won by Shirley Turner of Peru, while Wendy Hutchins was the lucky winner of the Andover Historical Society prize. The Food Pantry raffle, which was a basket of household items, was won by Pamela Griffin. I do not have any other info regarding raffles in other venues.

The Town Office wishes to remind people that proposed articles for the annual Town Meeting and Town Report including committee reports must be submitted to the office by Jan. 3, to allow sufficient time to prepare the report before it goes to the printers in early February. Photographers wishing to submit photos for the cover of the annual report are also included in this deadline. Don't forget to get your absentee ballot for the special School Withdrawal Election on Jan. 7, which must be filed three days prior to the election.

By the time you read this the Food Pantry will have distributed Christmas Baskets and "Star" gifts for children to the families of the area they service which includes Andover, Roxbury, Byron and Upton. The pantry would like to thank the many local citizens and businesses who contributed to the success of this year's Christmas program, especially the Roxbury ATV club who provided toys for children from the annual summer toy drive.

Since this will be the last column before Christmas and we all love Christmas traditions, you are reminded that there will be services on Christmas Eve both at the Calvary Bible Church and the First Congregational Church. At the church on the common the service will be a candle-lighting with "Silent Night" beginning at 7 p.m. with lots of singing of carols followed by a reception.

While some are complaining about the snow this past weekend, most are ready to ski, snowmobile, ice-skate and do all the winter activities that make living in Andover so much fun.

A very blessed, happy and joyous Christmas to all of my readers near and far.

Bryant Pond

By ALICE HOYT

Franklin Grange 124 met on Saturday, Dec. 7, for a regular meeting at the Grange Hall. A Christmas program was held as follows: Opening Song – "Joy to the World;" Opening Thought – "Jesus is the reason for the season;" Readings – "What is Christmas," by Laura and "A Christmas Story," by Peter; Song – "Go Tell it on the Mountain;" Couple Jokes – Alice; Jingle Bells; Closing Thought – "Christ is the world's candle sent so long ago. May we, through the centuries, keep the light aglow. Meetings in January will be held at the home of Alice and Ken Hoyt. The Grange put on a supper for the Republicans on Tuesday evening, Dec. 10. The next meeting is Saturday, Jan. 4 at 10 a.m. with a potluck dinner.

Several from town attended the Rotary dinner at the Legion Hall on Tuesday, Dec. 10. A delicious ham dinner was served and each one received a nice quilted place mate. Thanks to all who made this dinner possible.

Services at the Baptist Church are Sunday School at 9:15, Morning Worship at 10:30, Evening Service at 6 p.m. Wednesday evening at 6:30 is Mid-Week Service. Sunday, Dec. 22 at 6 p.m. is the annual Christmas Program followed by refreshments. Dec. 24 at 6 p.m. is a Candlelight service. On Tuesday, Dec. 10, the Ladies Coffee Cup Devotions were held at the parsonage. There were delightful eats and fellowship with a study of the word "joy" from God's word, ending in an exchange of gifts. We are so thankful for our pastor's wife Paula, who leads the Coffee Cup Devotions.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Clayton Crockett.

A good crowd attended the Christmas tree lighting on Friday, Dec. 6.

South Woodstock

By LOLALEE DILLINGHAM

Good morning dear readers. It was a very chilly -2 degrees when I got up this morning, the wind now is whipping around and it's making it much colder. The sun is warm coming thru the bay windows.

I am glad I have decided to stay in today to get some more crocheting and knitting done on the gifts for Christmas.

Condolences are going out to the families of Dotty Packard and Stubby Stone. Thoughts and prayers to all the family members.

Celebrating birthdays this month are Jane Roberts, Jim Mason, Jr., Lyndon Mason, Christie Hod-

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Tessie loves people, young and old, and would be the perfect addition to an active family.
Responsible Pet Care of Oxford Hills is a no-kill, non-profit shelter and adoption center for cats and dogs; and the holding area for stray dogs for 12 towns in Oxford County. The shelter has moved to a new location at 9 Swallow Road in Paris.
Anyone interested in adopting a pet from RPC can visit the shelter Tuesday-Sunday 12-4 p.m. Most of the adoptable pets and the adoption application can be found online on the shelter's website at www.rpc.petfinder.com.
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son, Rachael Grover, Laurie Wilson, Alex Poland, Bill Grover, Cleo Ryerson, Roni Grover, Sr., Christopher Wilday, Marilyn Hanscom, Phil Merrill, Donna Danforth and Jaymie Mack. Birthday wishes to others that may be celebrating this month.

Anniversary wishes are going out to Kevin and Natasha Hodson and Randy and Tia Gladden.

The Annual Christmas Cantata will be held on Sunday, Dec. 22, 4 p.m. at the Locke's Mills Union Church. A mixed Choir from area churches under the direction of Beverly Melville. Refreshments to follow. (Thank you Joyce for the update due to the pending storm.)

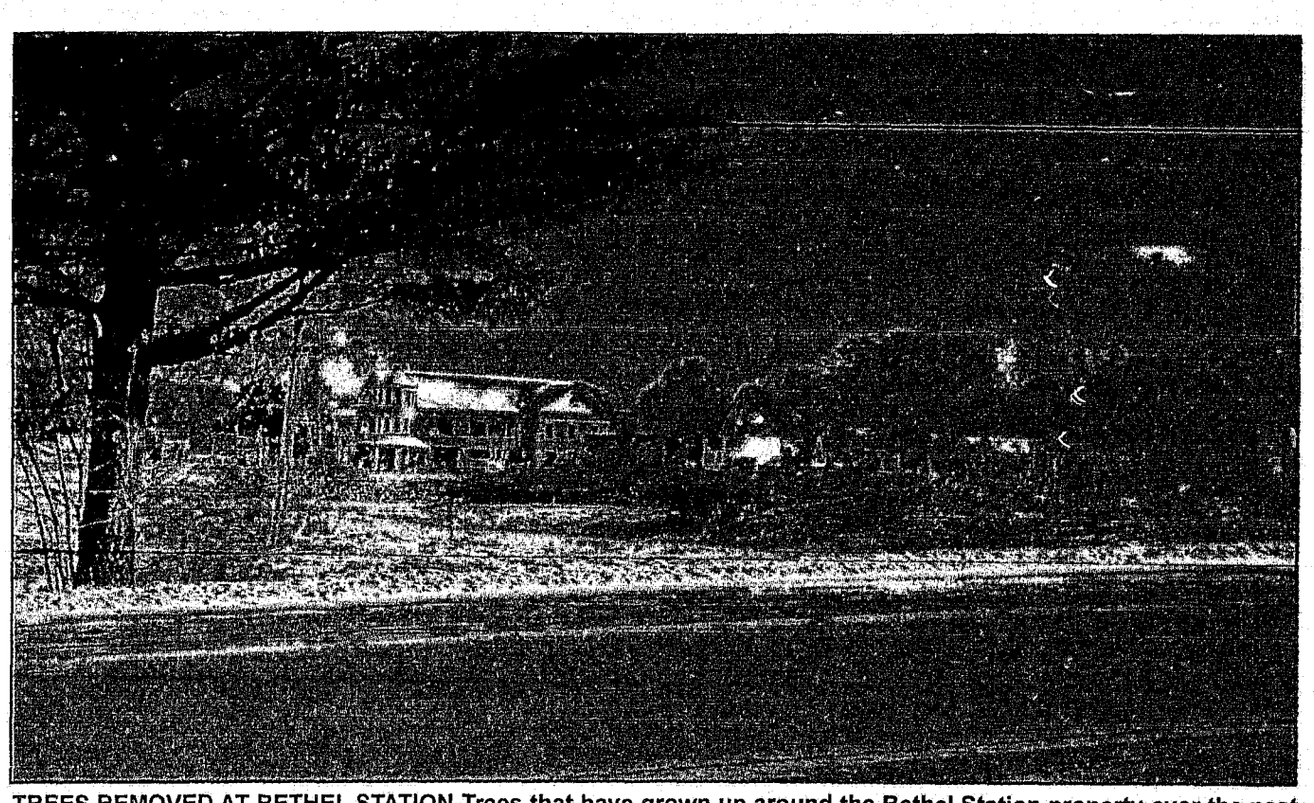
We are off to listen to the Christmas Choir tonight at the Oxford Hills High School. Family members and friends will be singing in the choir, and it gives me a chance to see some of the folks I do not get to see on a daily basis.

Get well wishes to our readers that are having medical issues. Our thoughts and many prayers are with each of you.

I was so hoping to see our Woodstock sign (here at Andrews corner) lit and with some pretty Christmas decorations for the Christmas Holiday.

If you have news (including birthdays and anniversaries) you wish to share with our readers please give me a call at 674-3104.

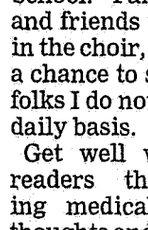
That's all from the valley this week...please stay well.



TREES REMOVED AT BETHEL STATION-Trees that have grown up around the Bethel Station property over the past 20 years were cut down and removed last week. Said Tony Donovan, the realtor who is listing the property, "The lot adjacent to the Norway Savings building has overgrown to the point where it is not evident how nice a property it is and the view from Route 2 of the Bethel Station development was blocked. I often refer to that parcel as the "Hotel Lot," as that was its original intent and when passenger rail starts up, perhaps that can be realized." *A. Aloisio*

Waterford

By ROCKIE GRAHAM



It is some cold out and getting colder. After a cold Saturday, we got 12 to 14 inches of snow this Sunday and another six to eight promised was one thing, but this awful cold is too much. I know and it has been known to sink to 20 below for days, even weeks in December, but I would rather it was 20 to 30 than zero to ten below. Even so, since our plow truck is still in the shop we had to snow blow the entire driveway, which is rather long, although not miles long. We had dueling snow blowers going on Sunday to clean it up. No one even plowed the road until 9 a.m. David usually does from here to the end of the road, but not this time. Eldon did it, but his truck broke down and he had to use another. Guess none of us were prepared this year. Of course David had Sunday off from work because the Bethel Transfer Station was closed. We will hear about that this Saturday, but the weather was so bad the town crews were up for hours and really didn't want to have to plow the transfer station. If it had been a little less snow, we could have used the bucket loader, but with the cold, it takes a long time to start.

Several weeks ago I said that I was doubting that Gertrude was female. Well now I know for sure. At about 8 months, she started laying eggs. Of course she could have been laying all along and hiding them. Now that she is in the dog house turned chicken/duck coup she is a captive audience. Since she started, she has laid one every day. Of course, several broke, but hey, that is better than before. Lefty just ignores the eggs and stays on her perch. Gertrude meanwhile has dug down for a nesting spot. The other day she stuck her head out to see what the noise was and the white stuff. She put her beak right down in the snow, looked up and went back into the house. So cute.

One more week until Christmas and the pressure and anxiety are gaining. We actually bought presents for all the grandkids we will see, but as usual wished we could do more. But Christmas is not about presents but about giving love and peace; or so I thought.

I told someone I'd say hello to them, but can't remember what his fake name is, but the thought is there.

Just realized that I've lost a week. So sorry I didn't put this week's happenings in the paper. In any case, hope all have a Merry Christmas and stay warm and safe.

Mason

By RICHARD GROVER

I've been cutting some pine logs on a small lot that niece Elsie owns along the side of the Kings Highway. Some of the pine trees are really big and a challenge for my little Kubota. Two of the big ones were leaning toward the road and, hence, the power lines, and I was afraid my tractor wasn't potent enough to pull them over away from the road. Consequently, nephew Dan, who has a larger Kubota than mine, volunteered to help me with them. I had worked for several days cutting trees to clear "felling paths" for the big pines. The land there is rough, with lots of rocks, hollows and old fallen trees, so it was a challenge making a safe place to position Dan's tractor where he could safely pull the pines without them falling on him or getting his tractor stuck.

We finally got the tractor positioned where the cable could reach the pines and then used my extension ladder to get the cable high enough on the pines that the "leverage" was in our favor. Dan put tension on the cable, and I cut the trees, taking care to hopefully fell the pines into the cleared paths. Luckily for us, first one pine tree and then the other fell just where we wanted them. Dan even pulled the two biggest logs down to the yard for me! It took me the rest of that day and half the next to yard the rest of the logs in those trees, but I enjoy the challenge!

On Sunday, we finally got the snowstorm that was predicted for days. We ended up with about 11 inches of the white stuff here. Shiloh had a great time bounding through the deep powder on our daily walk in the woods. He loves to drive his nose deep into the snow to get good whiffs of some odor or other. I don't know how he can do that without inhaling a snoot-full of powdered snow when he does that!

Saturday evening was the day for our annual fellowship supper, Christmas tree trim and carol sing at the West Bethel Union Church. The children had a great time hanging ornaments on the tree, but there seems to be a lot more ornaments on the lower half of the tree where the kids could reach, leaving quite a dearth of decorations from there up to the star on the top. Several of the smaller boys had fun crawling under the tree and putting ornaments on the back side, so it would be more evenly decorated.

Then there was a carol sing, with Nesta leading the sing-along with the piano. When it came time to sing "Here Comes Santa Claus," sure enough, Santa came down the aisle with a sack-full of wrapped toys and candy canes for the little ones. I'm not sure how he got all the names on the right packages, though!

Upton

By JOE BERNIER

The Annual Community Christmas party was a success. More than 30 people attended. Kids of all ages sang carols, recited poems and played games. Some of the poems were the traditional and some were originals. Gifts were given and prizes were received. The food was great and fun was had by all. Thank you, Ladies, for hosting another nice community gathering.

Not as many people ventured out in the storm Sunday for breakfast at the Ladies Aid. The Ladies Aid Association will begin weekly Sunday breakfasts on Jan. 5.

The State Line Snowmobile club's next meeting will be Jan. 4, 9 a.m. at the Upton House.

Now I remember winter! And everything I like about it. A few more snowstorms and maybe the trails will be ready. Dance on.

Merry Christmas to everyone.

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DEC 19 2013

BHS Annual Fund goal within reach

With only two weeks 'til the end of the calendar year, the Bethel Historical Society is encouraging anyone who has enjoyed one or more of its free programs or exhibits to make a tax-deductible donation to help it reach its 2013 Annual Fund goal of $45,000. According to Randy Bennett, the Society's Executive Director, "These donations are the lifeblood of the Bethel Historical Society and comprise over a third of our annual operating income." Pointing out that such donations differ from grants or bequests, which must be used for specific projects, he continued, "From a practical standpoint, Annual Fund donations help us pay our considerable day-to-day expenses as we work to save, preserve and share the history of Bethel and the surrounding region. Utility bills, grounds upkeep, building repairs, and staff salaries all come from operating income and the Annual Fund provides a large part of that income."

Recent donors to the Annual Fund are Ted and Kitty Chadbourne, Elaine and "Dutch" Dresser, James L. Haines, Mike and Lorrie Hoeh, Arlan and Eleanor Jodrey, Rachel MacKay, Roxanne Twitchell Sly, Michael S. Stowell, Portia Albee, William Strauss, Nancy Babcock, and Dorothy E. LeRoy. Anyone interested is assisting the Society in reaching its goal can mail a contribution in any amount to the Bethel Historical Society, P.O. Box 12, Bethel, Maine 04217. Online donations may be made through the Society's website (bethelhistorical.org) using PayPal or credit card.

THS/TMS volunteers

There is a continued drive to get community members involved at Telstar Middle and High School. During the week between Christmas and New Year's, interested people can sign up and chat with me. I will be at Cafe DiCocoa on Friday, Dec. 27, from 9 to 11 a.m. and at the Bethel Library on Thursday, Jan. 2 from 1 to 3 p.m. All of this is weather permitting, especially with the library. I will be glad to share information received from teachers as to what they are looking for and also to give you some basic insight about volunteering and discuss your areas of interest.

There are a number of people who have already come forward, contacted me, and shown an interest. A major goal is to compile this information for teachers to use and have ready when they are looking for guest speakers, members for a panel discussion or presentation, adults to give a student an extra boost in academics, help on special events, or perhaps someone to encourage a student's interest. Please consider sharing your time and enthusiasm with our young people! Hope to see you soon or as always, please contact me at write_to_rosemary@yahoo.com.

SRSSC Big Raffle

On Sunday, Dec. 29 at Sunday River's Barker Base Lodge, The Sunday River Ski & Snowboard Club is having its annual Big Raffle fundraiser and Member Social.

The grand prize is $10,000. There are numerous second place prizes too, including a fly fishing trip with Carter Davidson, a round of golf for four at the Bethel Inn, a Coffee Table from Rustics, saltwater fishing with Eric Wallace, a hand crafted Adirondack chair from Scott Masi, custom foot beds from Sunday River Sports and many more valuable prizes.

Tickets cost $100. They can be purchased at Gourmet in a Pinch located on Route 2 in Bethel or from Club Board members. You do not need to be present to win. Ticket stubs must be returned to Gourmet in a Pinch by 4 p.m. on Dec. 29. Raffle tickets will also be sold at the Member Social starting at 5 p.m. upstairs at the Barker Lodge. Only 500 tickets will be sold. More information can be found on the Sunday River Ski and Snowboard Club web site at www.srssc.com.

The Sunday River Ski and Snowboard club is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting local winter athletes, of all ages and abilities, with financial assistance and human capital. The Big Raffle is the Club's primary fundraiser and allows the Club to provide grants which allow athletes to attend on-mountain programs, attend regional middle school and high school championships, as well as national and international events.

For more info go to: www.srssc.com.

Mt. Abram and Bryant Pond 4H Camp to create outdoor enrichment program

The University of Maine 4H Camp and Learning Center at Bryant Pond will be offering an outdoor enrichment program during both Christmas and Presidents' holiday weeks. Sessions will take place at Mt. Abram's Westside Lodge. Open to kids ages 5 to 14, the programs will focus on outdoors skills such as wilderness survival, wildlife, tracking and archery.

The sessions will be offered from 4 to 7 p.m., starting at the Westside Lodge, on Dec. 26, 28, 30 and Feb. 18, 20 and 22. Each session will cost $30, including a box meal.

"We are very excited to partner with the 4H Camp and offer our younger guests a rewarding educational experience," says Mt Abram General Manager Dave Scanlan. "These programs are designed to be both fun and teach skills that will last a lifetime."

Pre-registration is recommended and can be done in person at the Mt Abram Child Care Center at Westside Lodge. For more information and a description of the sessions, visit http://www.mtabram.com/outdoor-enrichment-program/.

Sports

High School Boys' Varsity Basketball

Hall Dale 65, Telstar 35; Dec. 7 – Top scorers: Austin Ryerson (9 points) and Mike Dougherty (8 points). Record: 0-1. – Coach Mark Thurlow

Madison 66, Telstar 37; Dec. 10 – Top scorers: Nik Conrad (9 points) and Maverik Griffin (8 points). Record: 0-2. – Coach Mark Thurlow

Telstar 58, Mt. Valley 48; Dec. 12 – Top scorers: Austin Ryerson (18 points) and Maverik Griffin (13 points). Record: 1-2. – Coach Mark Thurlow

Next home game: Saturday, Dec. 21 vs. Boothbay.

High School Boys' J.V. Basketball

Madison 56, Telstar 31; Dec. 10 – A shorthanded boys' J.V. team gave a good effort in Madison, but came up short. Jeremiah Richardson led the Rebels with 9 points. The team played hard throughout the game. – Coach Ryan Kimball

Telstar 45, Mt. Valley 42; Dec. 12 – The J.V. boys defeated Mt. Valley. The Rebels played a great team defense and spread the ball around on offense. Zack Stone had 7 points, Avry Griffin and Brandon Dougherty had 8 points and Tanner Wheeler led all scorers with 13 points. – Coach Ryan Kimball

Oak Hill 40, Telstar 38; Dec. 14 – The J.V. boys lost a close game at Oak Hill. The boys showed great fight, coming back from a 10-point halftime deficit. Brandon Dougherty led all scorers with 17 points. – Coach Ryan Kimball

Middle School Boys' Varsity Basketball

Telstar 40, Carrabec 26; Dec. 9 – The Telstar MS Varsity basketball team opened the season with a victory against the Carrabec Cobras. Jarrett Bean led the team in scoring with 25 points, 5 blocked shots, and 8 rebounds, while Blake Rothwell tossed in 10 points and picked up 5 rebounds. Will Laflamme netted a 3 pointer off the bench in the fourth quarter. The team is now 1-0 for the season. – Coach O'Connor

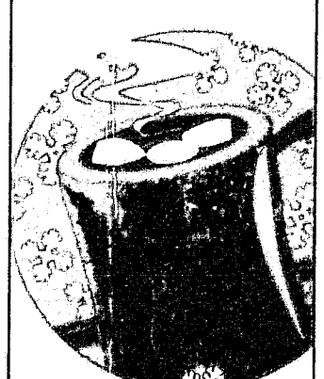
Dirigo 52, Telstar 26; Dec. 16 – The Telstar MS varsity basketball team lost to a much stronger Dirigo team. Jarrett Bean led the team in scoring with 16 points and Blake Rothwell netted 6 points. The team is now 1-1 for the season. – Coach O'Connor

Middle School Girls' Varsity Basketball

Carrabec 41, Telstar 17; Dec. 9 – The Telstar Middle School girls' varsity basketball team opened their season with a loss at Carrabec. Scorers were Kylee Martin with 6 points, Brooke Richardson, Sadie Richardson, Caroline Finley, Nicole Berry and Payton Abbot with 2 points each and Brooke Carson with 1 point. – Coach David Berry

These area businesses wish you

Greetings of the season

Eat, Drink & Be Merry!
With warm wishes from all of us this holiday season.

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In the spirit of giving, we would like to offer our thanks for your support and confidence. May all your holiday wishes come true.

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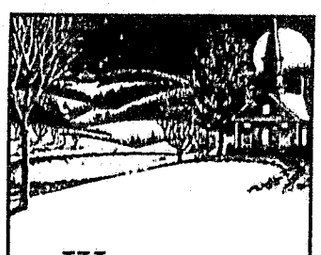
We value the friendships we've built with customers like you.
Hope you all have a
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Bethel
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Debby & Jane from
JADE'S Salon
are wishing you a Merry Christmas.
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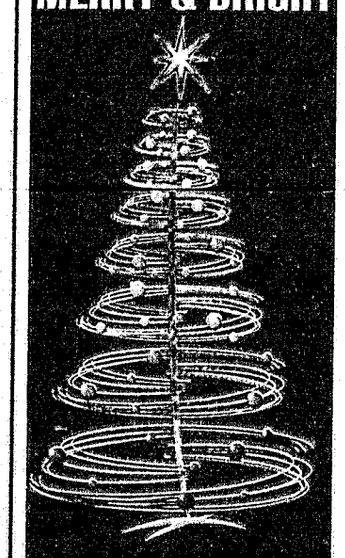
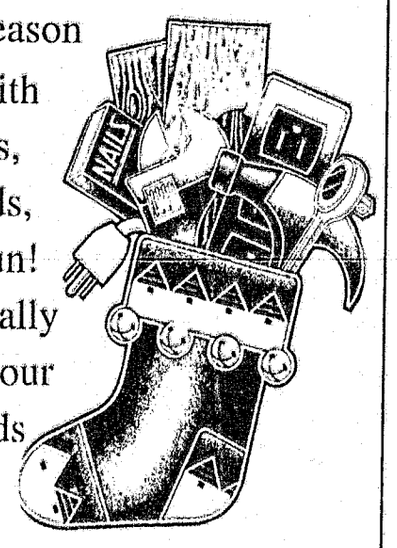
Bethel, ME
824-4834

Happy Holidays!
Many thanks for your patronage and support. May your holiday be filled with family, friends and good times.
The Tax Loft
824-7096

MERRY & BRIGHT

Glad tidings to you and yours this holiday season from all of us at
The Bethel Citizen
19 Main Street • Bethel, Maine
824-2444 • 800-922-6397

May this season overflow with good times, good friends, and good fun! We're especially thankful for our good friends like you.

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Closed Christmas Day
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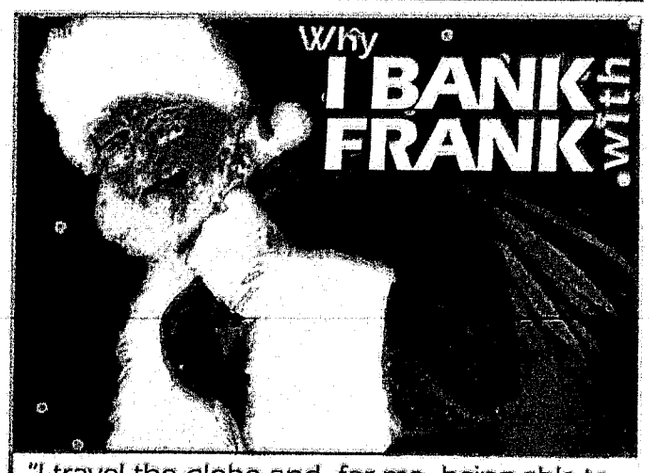

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

District Exchange; Bethel Park, 23 Mason Street, Bethel. Hours: Monday 1 to 4 p.m., Thursday 4 to 6 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Donations of gently-used clothing only accepted during open hours – No exceptions. FMI: 824-4090. Clothing may also be left at Northeast Bank, Main Street, Bethel Monday through Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursday and Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 noon.
Food Pantry; Nazarene Church, Park Street, Bethel. By appointment only (824-0369).

Friday, Dec. 20

Après Ski; 3 p.m., The Foggy Goggle. Live music with Dave Rowe.
TMS PTA Movie Night; 6 to 8:30 p.m., Telstar Auditorium. Movie is Despicable Me 2. All are welcome.
Live Music with Dan Merrill; 8 to 10 p.m., Loose Boots Lounge, Mt. Abram.

Saturday, Dec. 21

Free Horse-drawn Wagon Rides; 1 to 3 p.m. Meet in front of the Chapman Inn on the corner of Church Street and Main Street.
Après Ski; 3 p.m., The Foggy Goggle. Live music with North of Nashville.
Après Ski; 3 p.m., Barker Bar. Live music with Eric Greene.
Live Nativity; 5 to 7 p.m., West Paris Baptist Church, 14 Church Street. FMI: Pastor Randolph (376-6854).
Jones Dance Band; 7 to 10 p.m., South Paris Legion Hall. Adults: $5.
A Band Beyond Description; 7 p.m., The Foggy Goggle, South Ridge, Sunday River. Two year nominee for Maine's Best Jam Band.

Sunday, Dec. 22

5th Annual Cooper Campbell Day; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Shawnee Peak, Bridgton. In addition to enjoying healthy outdoor activity, kids and their families will enjoy music, fun games and raffle prizes.
Bell Ringers and Christmas Choir; 10 a.m., West Parish Congregational Church. This program is geared toward young children.
Christmas Basket Giveaway; 3 p.m., Nazarene Church, Church Street, Bethel. The Bethel Food Pantry in conjunction with Gould Academy's Reachout Program will give away 50 Christmas Baskets to residents of Hanover, Andover, Newry, Milton Township, Albany Township, Gilead, Bethel, Greenwood, Locke's Mills, Woodstock, and Bryant Pond. Baskets will include a turkey and the fixings. Baskets will be given away on a first come, first served basis. FMI: Dave Bean (824-0369).
Living Nativity; 5 p.m., Bethel Common. A living presentation of the birth of Jesus and songs of the season. All are welcome.
Candlelight Service; 6 p.m., First Baptist Church of Paris, Paris Hill. All are welcome. Refreshments will be provided following the service.
Candlelight Festival of Lessons and Carols; 7 p.m., West Bethel Union Church.

Tuesday, Dec. 24

Kids' Morning Walk/Snowshoe; 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Shepard's Family Preserve, 121 Crockett Ridge Road, Norway. Nice boys and girls are invited to take a walk or snowshoe in the woods with a representative from the North Pole. Wear layers, good boots, hats and gloves. Dogs are welcome. No charge.
Candlelight Christmas Eve Service and Holy Communion; 3:30 p.m., Bethel United Methodist Church.
Bell Ringers and Christmas Choir; 4 p.m., West Parish Congregational Church. This program is geared toward young children.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service; 5 p.m., First Universalist Church of West Paris. Service led by Rev. Fayre Stephenson. All are welcome to attend. In place of the traditional offering, the church will be accepting donations of money or nonperishable food for the West Paris food pantry.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service; 7 p.m., Bethel Alliance Church, 251 Walkers Mills Road (across from Telstar parking lot). FMI: 824-2289.
Candlelight and Carols Service; 7 p.m., West Parish Congregational Church.

Wednesday, Dec. 25

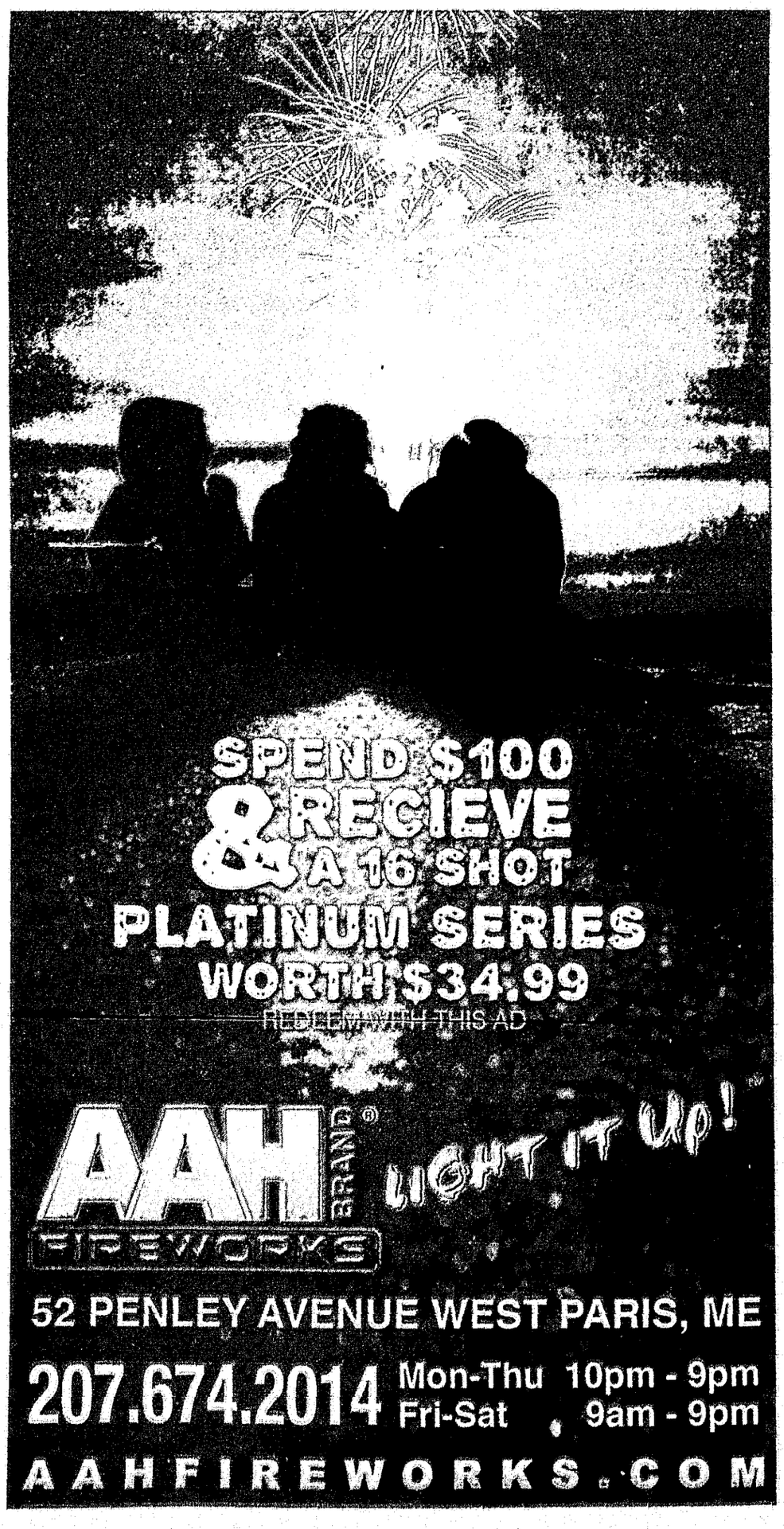
Christmas Service; 7:30 p.m., First Church of Christ, Scientist, 5 Morill Road, Norway.

Thursday, Dec. 26

Après Ski; 3 p.m., The Foggy Goggle. Live music with Bruce Jacques.

Friday, Dec. 27

THS/TMS Volunteer Information; 9 to 11 a.m., Café DiCocoa. Rosemary Bunn will be available to share information on volunteering at Telstar. FMI: write_to_rosemary@yahoo.com.
Christmas Ski Camp; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Mt. Abram.
Après Ski; 3 p.m., The Foggy Goggle. Live music with Bruce Jacques.



Après Ski; 3 p.m., Barker Bar. Live music with the Ron Gill Duo.
The Tardy Brothers; 7 p.m., Grand Summit Hotel. Sarcastic wit, physical comedy, live music, and high energy juggling. Tickets: $8/adults, $5/Children 12 and under, 5 and under free.
Carl Vee at Mt. Abram; 8 to 10 p.m. at Loose Boots Lounge. Music from the 1950s through 1980s.
Twiddle; 7 p.m., The Foggy Goggle, South Ridge, Sunday River. A Vermont-based quartet playing a blend of jazz, classical, bluegrass, reggae and funk.

Saturday, Dec. 28

Après Ski; 3 p.m., The Foggy Goggle. Live music with Big Ol' Dirty Bucket.
Jones Dance Band; 7 to 10 p.m., South Paris Legion Hall. Adults: $5.
Royal Hammer; 7 p.m., The Foggy Goggle, South Ridge, Sunday River. A 7-piece roots reggae group from Portland.
Fireworks; 8:30 p.m. South Ridge Lodge, Sunday River.

Monday, Dec. 30

Free Horse-drawn Wagon Rides; 1 to 3 p.m., Bethel Common. Sponsored by Sunday River Rentals, the Glen House and the Bingham House.
An Evening with Amity Schlaes; 6 p.m. Topic: "Scrooge as he is reflected in the current economy and popular culture." Seating is limited. RSVP required, preferably by Dec. 16. FMI/RSVP: 665-2049.
Ian Stewart – Master Hypnotist; 7 p.m., Grand Summit Hotel. An entertaining event with the highest level of hypnosis knowledge seen on any stage today. Tickets: $8/adults, $5/Children 12 and under, 5 and under free.

Tuesday, Dec. 31

NYE Celebration – Dinner, Dancing, and Cocktails; 5:30 p.m., The Bethel Inn. Five course dinner in the Main Dining Room, Rob Robbins in the South Dining Room and Brad Hooper in the Millbrook Tavern. Champagne toast at midnight. Dinner and entertainment: $59.95 per person. Entertainment only: $10 at the door. FMI/Reservations: 1-800-654-0125.
Soule Monde; 7 p.m. The Foggy Goggle, South Ridge, Sunday River. Instrumental, organ-driver funk.
Cirque de Light – Fire Performance Troupe; 7:45 p.m., South Ridge base area, Sunday River. New, techniques have been developed to now allow the fire dancers to paint the night sky with fiery patterns and trails of flame. This is a free performance.
New Year's Dance; 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., American Legion, Church Street, South Paris. Music by the Jones Band. Tickets are $15 if reservations are made by Dec. 21. After that date, tickets are $20. Ticket price includes a buffet at 9:45. FMI/Reservations: Betty Decoteau (743-7965).
Fireworks; 8:30 p.m. South Ridge Lodge, Sunday River.
NYE at Mt. Abram; Fireworks at 9 p.m. Live music by Stream Reggae at 10 p.m. $10 cover includes a glass of champagne. 21+ event.
New Year's Eve Party; 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., Dixfield American Legion. Music provided by Noel Palmer and Don. BYOB. $7 per person or $10 per couple. FMI/Tickets: 562-8030.

Wednesday, Jan. 1

SAD 44 Ski Free Day; Sunday River Ski Resort. Free lift ticket, free rental, free adult learn to ski/ride clinic. 50 percent food and beverage discount.

Thursday, Jan. 2

THS/TMS Volunteer Information; 1 to 3 p.m., Bethel Library. Rosemary Bunn will be available to share information on volunteering at Telstar. FMI: write_to_rosemary@yahoo.com.

Fridays, Jan. 3 through March 14

Friday Night Town League Race Series; 5 to 8 p.m., Mt. Abram. Teams of 3 to 7 will compete for the overall championship (team members must be age 21 or over). Drop-ins of all ages are welcome to run the course as an additional NASTAR race. Entry fee: $60 per person for 12-week series team members, $7 per person for drop-ins. Weekly after race party at Loose Boots Lounge with awards, raffles, drink specials and live music.

Friday, Jan. 3

Après Ski; 3 p.m., The Foggy Goggle. Live music with Dave Gutter.

Saturday, Jan. 4

State Line Snowmobile Club Meeting; 9 a.m., Upton House.
Après Ski; 3 p.m., Barker Bar. Live music with Eric Greene.
Après Ski; 3 p.m., The Foggy Goggle. Live music with Sly-Chi.

Jan. 6 and 7

Community Auditions for Oxford Hills Biennial Broadway Production; 6:30 to 9 p.m., Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School. Actors of all ages needed. Those auditioning are asked to not bring their own musical piece.

Monday, Jan. 6

Essentials of College Planning for adults 19 and over; 10 a.m., Western Maine University and Community College Center, South Paris. FMI/Registration: 1-800-281-3703 or http://meoc.maine.edu. Free and open to the public.
Socrates Café Meeting; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Waterford Library. Topic: "Is Information Gathering Good for Society?" Moderator: Joanne Morse. Coffee and light refreshments available. FMI: 583-6957.

Friday, Jan. 10

Red Bull Frozen Rush; 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday River Resort, 15 South Ridge Road, Newry. An off-road truck race like no other – eight 900-horsepower Pro4 trucks and their experienced professional drivers hit the slopes for a head-to-head race on the steep and unpredictable snowy terrain. FMI: www.redbull.com/frozen-rush.
Open House; 1 to 4 p.m., Greenwood Town Office, Gore Road, Locke's Mills.

Saturday, Jan. 11

Living on a Bad Name; 7 p.m., The Foggy Goggle, South Ridge, Sunday River. Bon Jovi tribute band – a guaranteed energetic show.

Monday, Jan 13

Essentials of College Planning for adults 19 and over; 10 a.m., Western Maine University and Community College Center, South Paris. FMI/Registration: 1-800-281-3703 or http://meoc.maine.edu. Free and open to the public.
Hoopalula's Fire Gaia; 6:45 p.m., South Ridge base area, Sunday River. Hoopalula takes "hooping" to the next level by adding fire to their performances! Fire- dancing adds exceptional flair and provides sizzling entertainment that will leave you raving for more. This is a free event.
Fireworks; 7:30 p.m. South Ridge Lodge, Sunday River.

Tuesday, Jan. 14

Rainforest Reptile Show; 7 p.m., Grand Summit Hotel. They're exotic crawlers, unusual 'slitherers' and fascinating creepers: They are the creatures of the rainforest. Educates and entertains people of all ages about reptiles, animals, and the importance of preserving their natural habitats. Tickets: Adults/$8, Children 12 and under/$5, under 5 free.

Thursday, Jan. 16

Mad Science Hands-on Discovery Booth; 6 p.m., Grand Summit Hotel. A fun, interactive and educational program that instills children with a clear understanding of what science is and how it affects their world. Tickets: Adults/$8, Children 12 and under/$5, under 5 free.

Saturday, Jan. 18

Illusionist Jason Bishop; 7 p.m., Grand Summit Hotel. Bishop is an international award-winning illusionist – the youngest person to win the Magician's Alliance of Eastern States Stage Award. A surprisingly funny, truly magical show. Tickets: Adults/$8, Children 12 and under/$5, under 5 free.
Dead Sessions; 7 p.m., The Foggy Goggle. A live performance by one of the favorite Grateful Dead tribute bands of the Northeast.
Fireworks; 8:30 p.m. South Ridge Lodge, Sunday River.

Saturday, Jan. 25

Fireworks; 8:30 p.m. South Ridge Lodge, Sunday River.

Sunday, Jan. 26

SAD 44 Ski Free Day; Sunday River Ski Resort. Free lift ticket, free rental, free adult learn to ski/ride clinic. 50 percent food and beverage discount.

Saturday, Feb. 8

The Peacheaters; 7 p.m., The Foggy Goggle. Music ranging from the Allman Brothers Band, the Black Crowes, the Grateful Dead, the Doors, Neil Young and more.

Saturday, Feb. 15

AudioBody; 7 p.m., Grand Summit Hotel. The Tardy Brothers are back, this time as AudioBody, complete with an arsenal of audio-visual inventions. Tickets: Adults/$8, Children 12 and under/$5, under 5 free.

DEC 19 2013

MAHOOSUC KIDS

Enrichment opportunities for the children in SAD #44

From the Director

What a beautiful winter day here at CPS! The kids are so excited to get the sleds and snow shoes out to play.

We have had some really exciting programs wrap up for the year. The WES theater students presented Snow White for the their school community in late November. MKA partners with Amanda Jordan and Kids Create Theater Company for this program. A new play will begin in January for students at CPS.

Our Karate program finished up this session with several students in both CPS and WES passing their belt tests. Maine Kyokushin Karate will be back with new sessions in the New Year!

MKA offered a week long program at CPS called Myths & Legends with Elizabeth Yankura. The students enjoyed exploring different cultures. We hope to offer this program again at the other MKA sites.

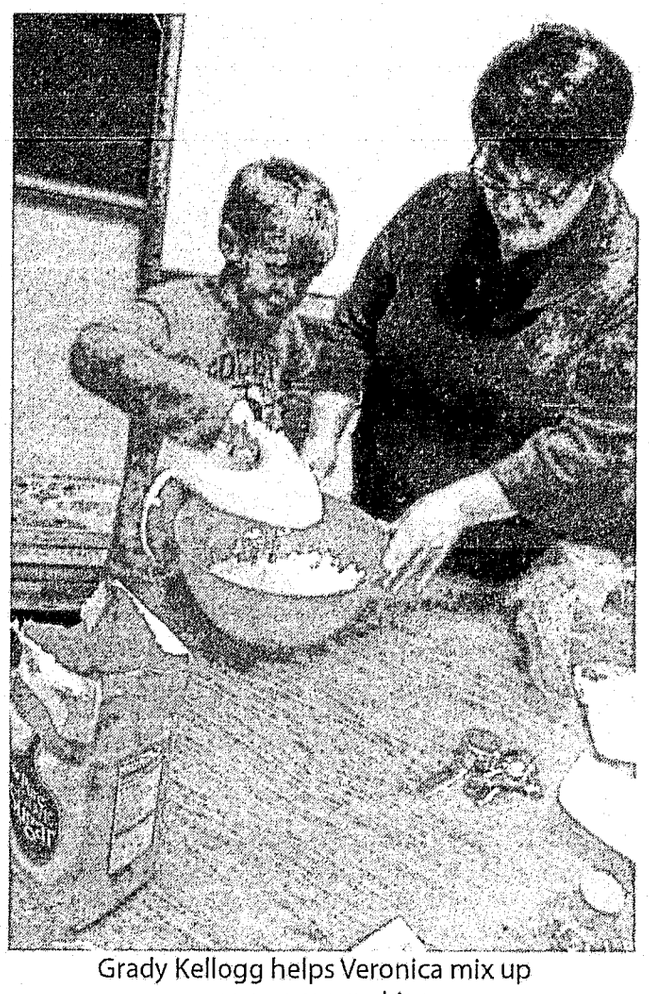
The TMS students enjoyed writing cards to men and women in all branches of the armed forces.

From all of us at Mahoosuc Kids, we hope you all have a wonderful time with family and friends this season. We are all anticipating good things in 2014!

Best Wishes and Happy New Year.

Julie Hart,
MKA Director

Bella & Julia having fun in the snow!



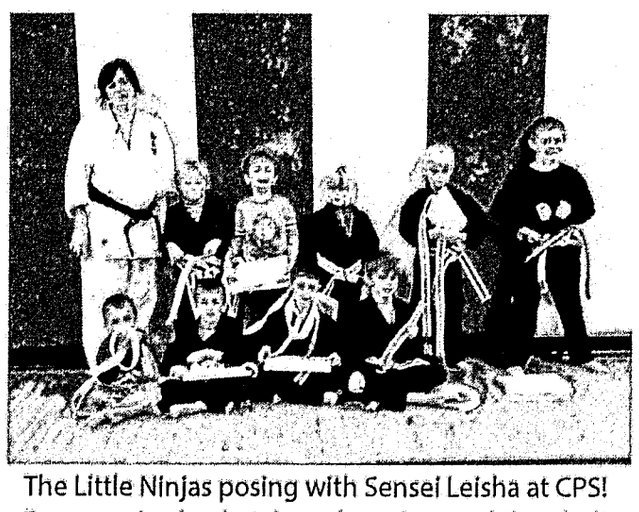
Grady Kellogg helps Veronica mix up some sugar cookies.

Lucas Barstow and Bailey Ryder having some fun sledding.

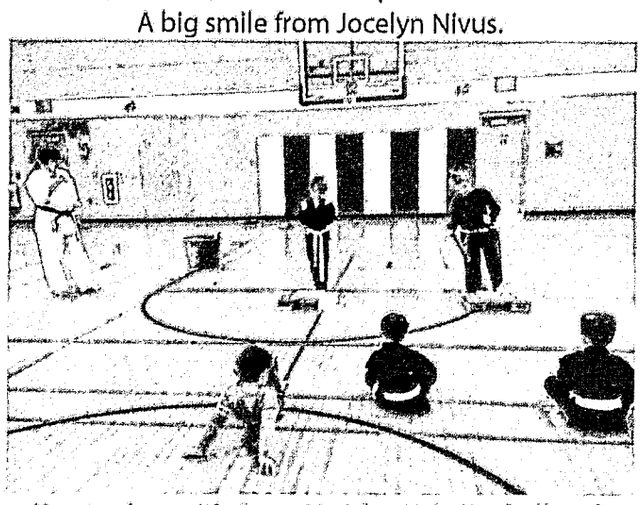
MKA kids enjoying winter!

Thank you to Community Sports for donating soccer balls, frisbees, and hula hoops to our CPS site! A big smile from Jocelyn Nivus.

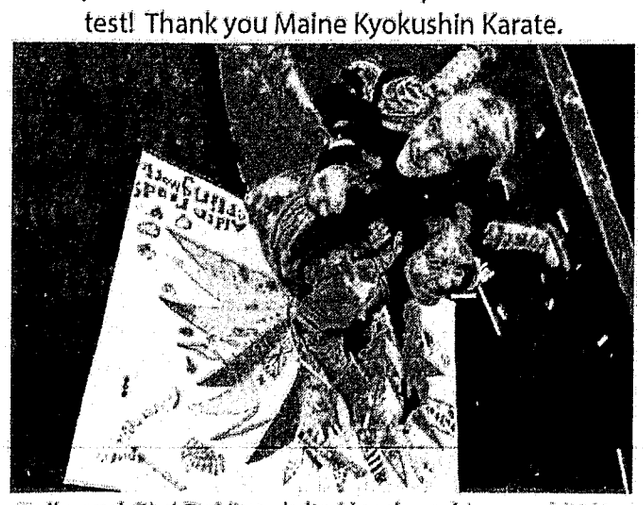
Ella Kellogg does her homework after school with Pam House.



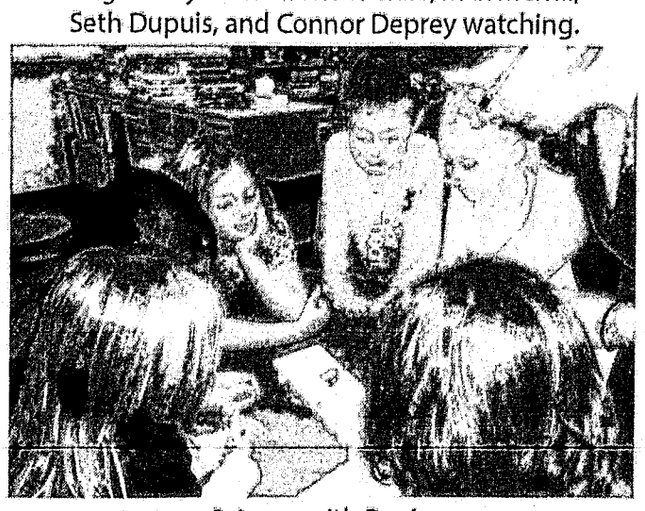
The Little Ninjas posing with Sensei Leisha at CPS! Everyone broke their boards and passed their belt test! Thank you Maine Kyokushin Karate.



Karate class with Sensei Leisha. Kyle Kimball and Gage Berry at the front of class, Max Merrill, Seth Dupuis, and Connor Deprey watching.



Bella and Gigi DeVivo, Julia Head working on MKA's turkey poster for Turkey Tuesday.



Science with Regi.

Savannah Knight breaks some boards with her feet during karate class.

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39 Mayville Rd.

Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

WORD FUN

Study the two words on each line to find the ONE letter in the left column that is NOT in the word in the right column. Write the extra letter on the blank space. Then read DOWN to answer this riddle:

WHO IS A PENGUIN'S FAVORITE RELATIVE?

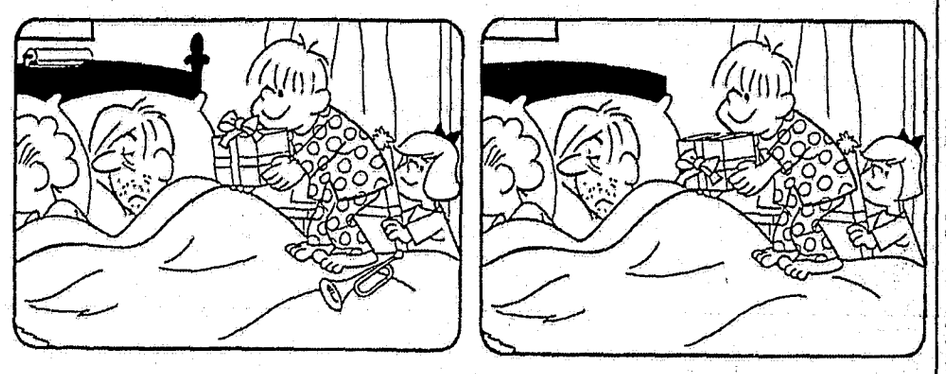
ORNATE	___	TENOR	ELAPSE	___	SLEEP
UPSETS	___	STEPS	ARCHER	___	REACH
TUCSON	___	SCOUT	CANCEL	___	LANCE
TASSEL	___	SEALS	STAPLE	___	PLEAS
			SERIAL	___	LASER
			RICHES	___	HIRES
			GRAINS	___	GRINS

For more puzzle fun, go to www.www.brainzzles.com

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences:
1. Bed lamp is missing. 2. Bedpost is missing. 3 Bow is moved. 4. Sleeve is shorter. 5.Bugle is missing. 6. Hair is different.

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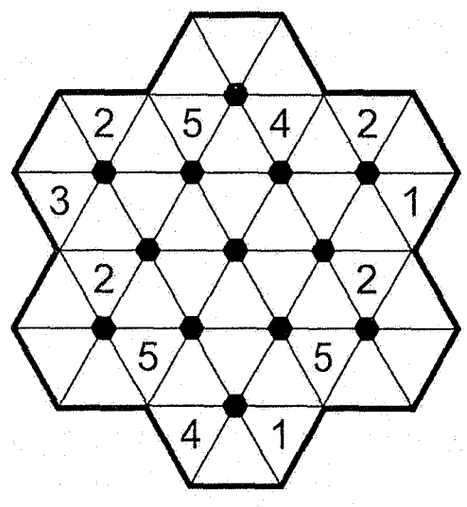
SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the number 1-6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆ Difficult

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Exempt MINEUM ___ ___ ___ ☐ ☐ ___

Edge FINGER ___ ___ ☐ ___ ☐ ___

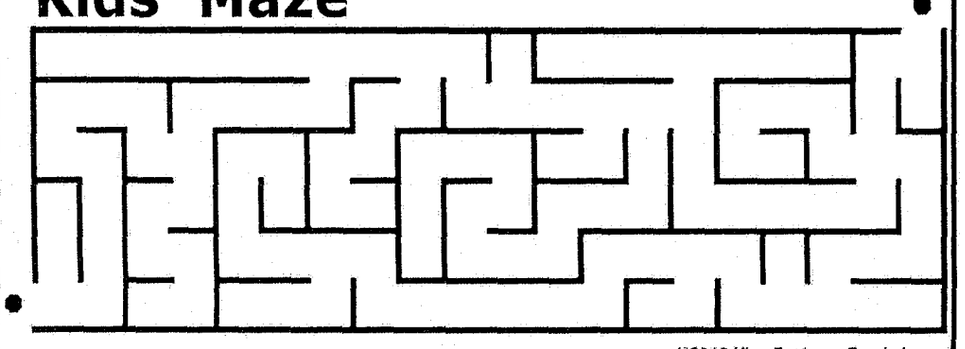
Credit CRABIES ___ ___ ___ ☐ ___ ☐ ___ ___

Heed ☐ COTINE ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

"Hi, honey — we eating out tonight? I don't smell anything ☐!"

TODAY'S WORD ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

Kids' Maze



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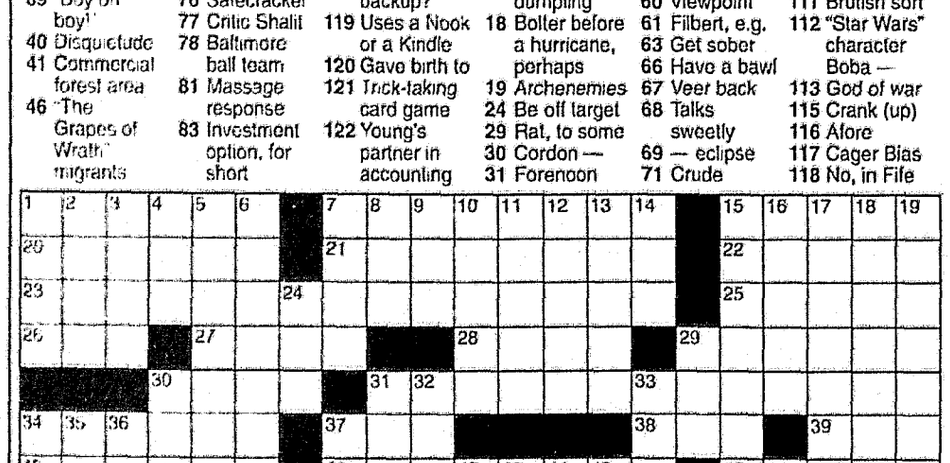
Super Crossword

NOW ZEE HERE

ACROSS
1 Place
7 Installs in advance, as software
15 Using ink, as a signature
20 Really stuck
21 Its capital is Bogotá
22 Dewy-eyed
23 Plate a World War II battleship with a certain metal?
25 Iron emission
26 Downed
27 Sea dogs
28 Biology subj.
29 Actor Guy
30 Fuzzy image
31 Woman on "Friends" being fervent?
34 Long guns
37 Grassy turf
38 "— that time"
39 "Boy oh boy!"
40 Disquietude
41 Commercial forest area
46 "The Grapes of Wrath" migrants
48 African warrior answering to a captain?
50 "Put — Happy Face"
51 Summer, in Montréal
52 NYPD rank
53 Advanced study group
55 Gibson and Brooks
59 "My life — open book"
62 Chew the
64 Notes after dos
65 Dye anew
67 Put lollipops in the microwave?
70 Greek god who's a physician?
72 Walking so as not to make a peep
73 Hither and —
75 Cambodian leader Lon —
76 Safecracker
77 Critic Shalit
78 Baltimore ball team
81 Massage response
83 Investment option, for short
85 Investment options, for short
87 Pigskin-passing actor Efron?
91 Juice, as a goose
94 Units of GIs
95 Glowing with light
96 Corp. name ender, often
97 Enthusiast
99 Sushi eggs
100 Huge meals
101 Place where injured animals are brought to recuperate?
107 Pre-'91 world power
108 Garments
109 Hit tune by the Kinks
110 Having a tiff
111 Flip — coin
114 Basel's river
115 Witty remark belted out without instrumental backup?
119 Uses a Nook or a Kindle
120 Gave birth to
121 Trick-taking card game
122 Young's partner in accounting
123 City near Los Angeles
124 Varieties of trapshooting games

DOWN
1 Ms. Minnelli
2 Doing the job
3 Sugar type
4 One side in the Pro Bowl: Abbr.
5 Least large
6 Very tired
7 Toxic chem. pollutants
8 French "king"
9 High trains
10 Willy of "Death of a Salesman"
11 Dweller in Muscat
12 Bric- —
13 Decrees
14 Hefty's Cinch —
15 Ripe
16 Birth-related
17 Potato-filled dumpling
18 Bolter before a hurricane, perhaps
19 Archenemies
24 Be off target
29 Rat, to some
30 Cordon —
31 Forenoon
32 Playwright Clifford
33 "Invader" on Nickelodeon
34 Regulation
35 Set in motion
36 Boon on "Wheel of Fortune"
37 Plaza figure
42 Weizman of Israel
43 Was irate
44 Writer Lune
45 Part of RBI
47 Ini — of reggae
49 One of a making-out couple
50 Filled cookie
54 Schoolroom for painting and sculpting
56 Mourns in verse
57 Ed Asner TV series
58 Sophs., two years later
60 Viewpoint
61 Filbert, e.g.
63 Get sober
66 Have a bawl
67 Veer back
68 Talks sweetly
69 — eclipse
71 Crude
74 Roman tyrant
79 Mensa stats
80 Cache
82 12 1/2 and 20 1/2, say, in women's clothing
84 Isn't idle
86 Rid of trees
88 Heroic verse
89 Pool ball striker
90 Old Chrysler
91 Strange
92 One after —
93 Nova — (certain Canadian)
94 German link
98 Is, pluralized
102 Chances on
103 Foil giant
104 Castle protectors
105 Greek letter
106 Stared in amazement
107 Stage star Hagen
110 Pierce player
111 Brutish sort
112 "Star Wars" character Boba —
113 God of war
115 Crank (up)
116 Afore
117 Cager Bias
118 No, in Fife



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Star★Map

By Linda Thistle

Draw a star in exactly 10 of the empty squares in the diagram so that each numbered square accurately indicates how many immediately adjacent squares (horizontally, vertically or diagonally) contain a star.

		1			2	
	2		2			
				1	2	
2	4		2			
1	3					
		2	3	2		
1						

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★Easy ★★Moderate ★★★YOWZA!

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Kids' Maze solution

ANSWERS:

Super Crossword answers

Star★Map solution

SNOWFLAKES solution

Puzzles4Kids Answer

ORNATE	A	TENOR	
UPSETS	U	STEPS	
TUCSON	N	SCOUT	
TASSEL	T	SEALS	
ELAPSE	A	SLEEP	
ARCHER	R	REACH	
CANCEL	C	LANCE	
STAPLE	T	PLEAS	
SERIAL	I	LASER	
RICHES	C	HIRE	
GRAINS	A	GRINS	

SCRAMBLERS *solution*

1. Immune; 2. Fringe; 3. Ascribe; 4. Notice

Today's Word: **BURNING**

D E C 19 20 13

Easy breakfast ideas for spending the morning around the tree!

Happening Around Town

Telstar Middle School PTA Movie Night
Friday, December 20
6 to 8:30pm, Telstar's Helen C. Berry Auditorium. Movie playing is Despicable Me 2. All are welcome.

Horse-Drawn Wagon Rides
Saturday, December 21
Horse-drawn wagon rides for the whole family! 1-3pm. Meet at the north end of the town common near the Chapman Inn for rides through historic Bethel village. Rides given by Deepwood Farm.

A Band Beyond Description
Saturday, December 21
7pm at the Foggy Goggle, South Ridge, Sunday River. Two-year nominee for Maine's best Jam Band.

Living Nativity
Sunday, December 22
A living presentation of the birth of Jesus and songs of the season. All are welcome. 5pm, Bethel Common.

Candlelight Festival of Lessons and Carols
Sunday, December 22
7pm at the West Bethel Union Church.

The Tardy Brothers
Friday, December 27
7pm at the Grand Summit Hotel. Sarcastic wit, physical comedy, live music, and high energy juggling. Tickets: $8/adults, $5/children 12 and under, 5 and under free.

Twiddle
Friday, December 27
7pm at the Foggy Goggle, South Ridge, Sunday River. A Vermont-based quartet playing a blend of jazz, classical, bluegrass, reggae, and funk.

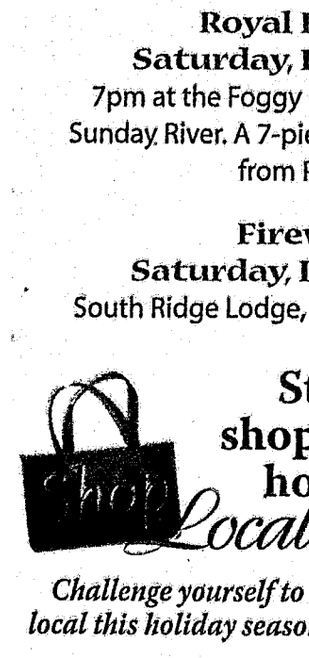
Royal Hammer
Saturday, December 28
7pm at the Foggy Goggle, South Ridge, Sunday River. A 7-piece roots reggae group from Portland.

Fireworks
Saturday, December 28
South Ridge Lodge, Sunday River, 8:30pm.

Strategies for shopping local this holiday season

Challenge yourself to keep more of your dollars local this holiday season. Here are a few strategies:

1. Try at least one new store that you haven't visited before. If you intentionally stretch your boundaries, you might be surprised at what you find and the people you meet.
2. Decide to spend a specific amount of money locally. Whether it's $20, $50, $100, or whatever fits in your budget, it all makes an impact.
3. Everyone loves gift certificates, and they are usually available in any amount from almost any store. Instead of gift cards to a generic big box store that your gift recipient will have to drive a long way to spend, pick them up locally.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Caramel Breakfast Wreath

1 cup chopped pecans, divided
16 frozen white dinner rolls
3½ oz. pkg. cook & serve butterscotch pudding mix
¾ cup brown sugar, packed
½ cup butter, melted

The night before, sprinkle half the pecans in the bottom of a Bundt® pan that has been sprayed with non-stick vegetable spray. Arrange dinner rolls on top of pecans; sprinkle with pudding mix. Mix brown sugar and butter together; pour over rolls. Spread remaining pecans over top. Place pan in a cold oven and let stand overnight to rise. In the morning, remove pan from the oven and preheat to 325 degrees. Return pan to oven; bake for 30 minutes. Turn pan upside-down onto a platter and serve. Serves 8 to 12.

Bacon & Egg Potato Skins

2 baking potatoes
4 eggs, beaten
1 to 2 tsp butter
salt and pepper to taste
¼ cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese
¼ cup shredded Cheddar cheese
4 slices bacon, crisply cooked and crumbled
Optional:
sour cream
chopped fresh chives

Bake potatoes at 400 degrees for one hour, until tender. Slice potatoes in half lengthwise; scoop out centers and reserve for another recipe. Place potato skins on a lightly greased baking sheet. Bake at 400 degrees for 6 to 8 minutes, until crisp. Remove from oven. In a skillet over medium heat, scramble eggs in butter just until they begin to set. Add salt and pepper; remove from heat. Spoon equal amounts of eggs, cheese and bacon over each potato skin. Reduce heat to 350 degrees and bake for 10 minutes, until cheese is melted and eggs are completely set. Garnish with sour cream and chives, if desired. Makes 4 servings.

Overnight Apple French Toast

1 cup brown sugar, packed
½ cup butter
2 tbsp light corn syrup
4 Granny Smith apples, peeled and sliced ¼ inch thick
3 eggs
1 cup milk
1 tsp vanilla extract
9 slices day-old French bread
1 cup applesauce
10 oz. jar apple jelly
½ tsp cinnamon
1/8 tsp ground cloves

Combine brown sugar, butter and corn syrup in a small saucepan; cook over low heat until thick. Pour into an ungreased 13"x9" baking pan, arranging apple slices on top of syrup. Beat eggs, milk and vanilla in a mixing bowl. Dip French bread in egg mixture and arrange over apple slices. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Remove from refrigerator 30 minutes before baking, and uncover. Bake at 350 degrees for 35 to 40 minutes, until the top of the bread is browned. Meanwhile, combine remaining ingredients in a saucepan and cook over medium heat until jelly is melted. Serve French toast with apple slices on top and spoon the warm sauce over the apples. Serves 6 to 8.

Sugarplum Bacon

½ cup brown sugar, packed
1 t. cinnamon
½ lb. bacon

In a bowl, combine brown sugar and cinnamon. Cut each bacon slice in half crosswise; dredge each slice in brown sugar mixture. Twist bacon slices and place in an ungreased 13"x9" baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes, until bacon is crisp and sugar is bubbly. Place bacon on aluminum foil to cool. Serve at room temperature. Makes 8 servings.

Maple Ham & Egg Cups

1 tbsp butter, melted
6 slices deli ham
1 tbsp maple syrup
1 tsp butter, cut into pieces
6 eggs
salt & pepper taste
English muffins, toast or biscuits

Brush muffin cups in pans with melted butter, line each cup with a lice of ham. Pour 1/2 teaspoon maple syrup over each ham slice, top with one pat of butter, Crack one egg into each ham cup, season with salt & pepper as desired. Bake at 400 degrees for 20 minutes or until eggs are set. Remove muffin cups from oven, use a spoon or gently twist each serving to loosen. Serve on English muffins, with toast or on split biscuits. Serves 6.

Apple Walnut Coffee Cake

3 eggs, beaten
1 cup oil
2 cups sugar
1 tbsp vanilla extract
3 cups all-purpose flour
1 tsp salt
½ tsp baking powder
1 tsp baking soda
¾ tsp nutmeg
1 tbsp cinnamon
2 cups apples, peeled, cored and chopped
1 cup chopped walnuts
Glaze:
1 cup powdered sugar
1½ tbsp milk
½ tsp vanilla

In a bowl, combine all ingredients except apple and nuts; mix well. Stir in apple and nuts; pour into greased and floured Bundt® pan. Bake at 300 degrees for 45 minutes. Increase heat to 325 degrees and bake an additional 20 minutes. Cool on a wire rack for 20 minutes; turn out onto a serving plate. For Glaze, in a bowl, whisk together powdered sugar, milk and vanilla; drizzle over cake before serving. Serves 16.

Egg & Bacon Quesadillas

2 tbsp butter, divided
4 8 inch flour tortillas
5 eggs, beaten
½ cup milk
2 8 oz. pkgs. shredded Cheddar cheese
6 to 8 slices bacon, crisply cooked and crumbled
Optional:
salsa, sour cream

Lightly spread about quarter of a teaspoon of butter on one side of each tortilla; set aside. In a bowl, beat eggs and milk until combined. Pour egg mixture into a hot, lightly greased skillet; cook and stir over medium heat until done. Remove scrambled eggs to a dish and keep warm. Melt remaining butter in the skillet and add a tortilla, buttered-side down. Layer with 1/4 of the cheese, 1/2 of the eggs and 1/2 of the bacon. Top with 1/4 of the cheese and a tortilla, buttered-side up. Cook one to 2 minutes on each side, until golden. Repeat with remaining ingredients. Cut each into 4 wedges and serve with salsa and sour cream, if desired. Serves 4.

Cranberry-Orange Warmer

16-oz. pkg. frozen cranberries, thawed
4-inch cinnamon stick
8 cups water
6-oz. can frozen orange juice concentrate, thawed
6-oz. can frozen lemonade concentrate, thawed
1 cup sugar

In a saucepan, bring cranberries, cinnamon stick and water to a boil. Boil for 5 minutes. Strain, discarding cranberries and cinnamon stick. Return juice to saucepan. Add juice concentrates and sugar to saucepan; stir until sugar melts. Serve warm. Makes 20 servings.

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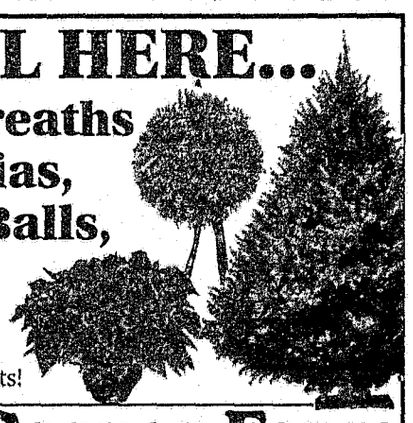

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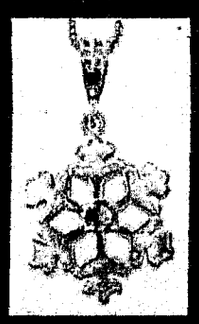

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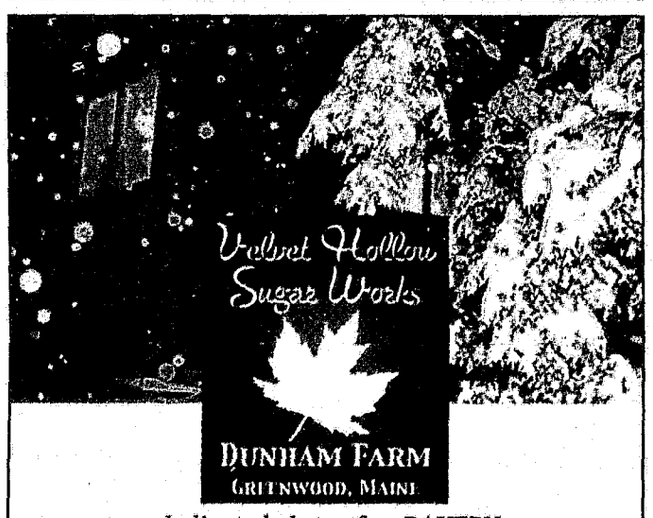

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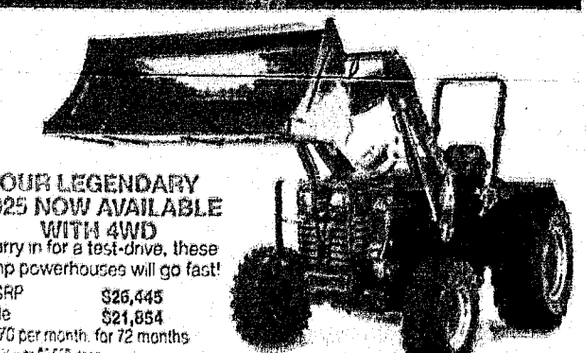

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DEC 19 2013

Don't forget stocking stuffers!

Local businesses help make holiday gatherings festive

Local vendors may have unique gifts ideal for holiday giving.

Time is in short supply during the holiday season. Between the shopping, cooking, baking and wrapping, there seems to be precious few hours to tackle anything else. Those who desire an old-fashioned, homemade holiday can still experience all of the seasonal magic by deferring some of the work to local businesses.

Decorating

Much of the splendor of the holiday season comes directly from the intricately decorated houses and storefronts. Twinkling lights and garlands of fresh pine boughs can instantly transform any building. Decorating a home can take an entire day or more, but delegating the work to a decorating service will provide you with professional-looking results as well as free time to tackle other obligations. Decorators can work outdoors stringing lights and creating a winter wonderland in the fraction of the time it takes homeowners to decorate their homes.

Baking

What would the holiday season be without the sweet treats and inviting smells of freshly baked goods? The cooler weather is an ideal time to turn on the oven and whip up a batch of cookies or cakes with the aroma of pungent cinnamon and nutmeg. Others would prefer desserts that provide homemade flair without the effort. Local bakeries experience an upswing in business this time of year as shoppers flock to choose among the pastries, cookies and pies in display cases. Whether a dessert comes directly from your kitchen or that of a local confectionary shop, chances are guests will enjoy each delectable bite. If you have a custom-order dessert in mind, consult with the bakery well in advance to ensure your dessert will be available when hosting friends and family.

Catering

Roasts and lavish tables are part of the holiday season, but so are the corporate parties and cocktail events that comprise a social season. Catering a party is an easy way to offer guests delicious food with minimal work. Local caterers can provide everything from sit-down dinners to buffet spreads. Some restaurants that do not normally cater events may offer special packages this time of year. Different customers are vying for the services of caterers within a small window of time. Contract with a preferred caterer early on to guarantee you can benefit from their services.

Parties

Social calendars fill up come November and December. When hosting a gathering of coworkers, family or friends, choose local venues for social events so travel to and from the party is easier on guests. Parties can take place anywhere, including movie theaters, bowling alleys, wine stores, and indoor floral nurseries.

Gifting

Shopping at local vendors often means more personalized service and a less stressful experience. Develop a rapport with a favorite shop owner so that he or she can alert you to private sales or put coveted items on the side. A specialty store may have that unique gift not easily found elsewhere, and shop owners may be able to special-order bulk gifts. Smaller retailers may also offer specialized services, such as gift-wrapping or personal shopping. Shopping locally can help holiday shoppers save time and support their communities.

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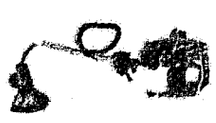

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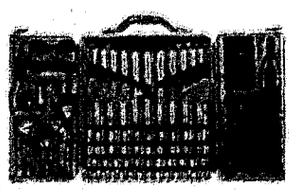

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Wait! What?

The competition was very close in both the Oxford Hills and the River Valley area for the OCDVTF Paint the County Purple Contest. The Mexico Explorers judged the River Valley contestants and Members of the Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School Respect Team judged the Oxford Hills contestants.

The River Valley winner was Marden's and the Oxford Hills winner was Play and Grow Children's Consignment Shop. Other contestants included Hair Plus, Raven Collection, Ocean Breeze, Fiber and Vine in the Oxford Hills' area and Jennifer Kreckel Law Firm, United Insurance, Hope Association, Bangor Savings Bank, River Valley Healthy Communities Coalition and Ink Plaza in the River Valley area.

Below are the Oxford Hills winners' and judge's Paint the County Purple experiences.

"As the owners of Play and Grow Children's Consignment Shop, my daughter Nikki and I are very proud to be the winners of the Paint the County Purple contest for Southern Oxford County. When I called Nikki and told her about the contest and the reasons behind the contest her words were "Let's do it!" and we decided to put our all into this contest to try to raise awareness of the seriousness of Domestic Violence. I am not only a small business owner in Norway, I am also a Victim Advocate for the Oxford County District Attorney's office and a member of the Oxford County Domestic Violence Task Force, so I am very aware of the repercussions throughout families and our community as a result of Domestic Violence. Daily I see the effects of Domestic Violence, the damage a single incident of violence can cause to a child, I see families torn apart, I see women struggle with the loss of financial support, and kids that just want their mommy and daddy not to fight. I am a realist and know that we will probably never completely stop Domestic Violence, but I do believe that the more we make people aware that there are choices other than living in violence, that there are people who want to help, that there are programs that can help both the abuser and the victim, that there are long term effects on children that are exposed to this or any kind of violence and that as a community we can make a difference by not turning our heads away or turning up our televisions to drown out the neighbors fighting, by working together we can drastically reduce the number of Domestic Violence assaults in our community.

Kelcey Robichaud said, "Judging the Paint the County Purple contest was a great experience. Going from business to business seeing the creative and eye-catching displays they had created to integrate the color purple and their window displays made me realize that the sense of community was strong in Oxford Hills. So many people had come together against Domestic Violence and offered support and help for victims. I felt as if we were making huge strides in ending the violence because the help contact information was plastered on storefronts across South Paris and Norway. Together we could all work to break the silence and end the violence.

The actual judging was difficult- the displays were all so unique and creative! Each business had its own perks and bonuses to the displays, which made them interesting to look at and fun to judge. I was excited to be able judge the displays I saw from the car window each morning. Now that I knew what the purple was for, it made me happy that I could be a part of this good cause. I knew that each person who walked by the stores could see the pieces of paper explaining what all the purple was for, which helped spread the word even more. Judging Paint the County Purple was so much fun and I can only hope that even more businesses participate in this important event next year!"

For more information about the Oxford County Domestic Violence Task Force, please contact Diane at 364-9908 or dgallagher@safevoices.org.

If you or someone you know needs assistance, please call:

Safe Voices: 24 hr. free and confidential helpline 800-559-2927 www.safevoices.org

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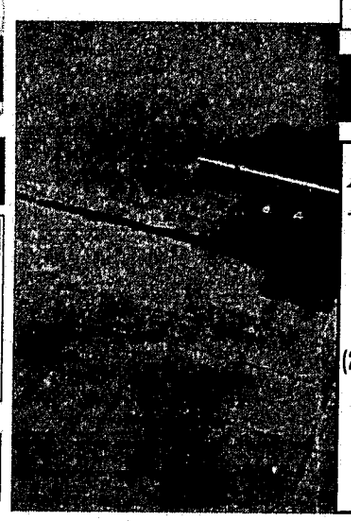

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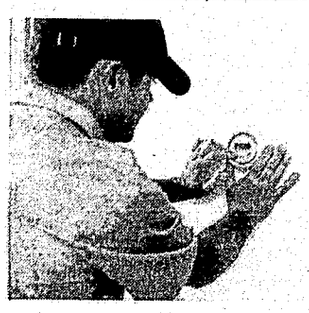

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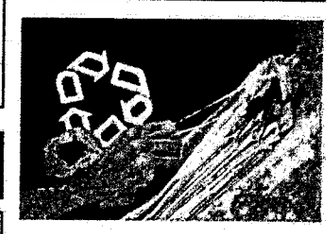

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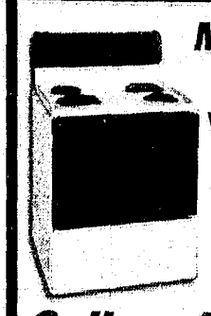

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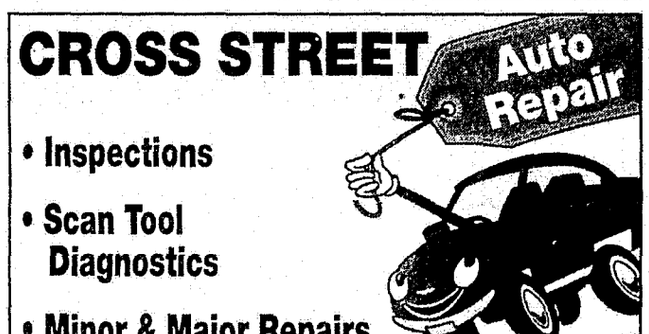

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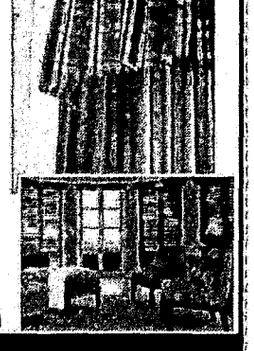

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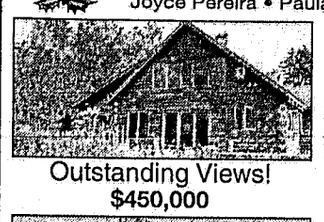
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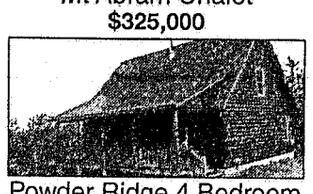
Powder Ridge 4 Bedroom $359,000

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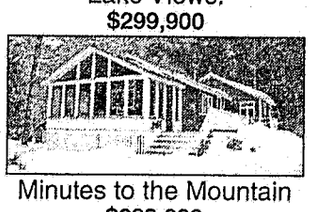
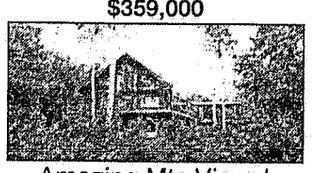
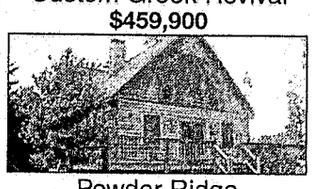
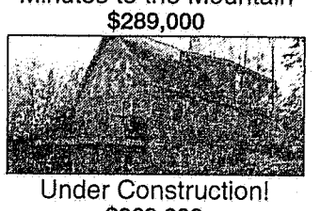

Minutes to the Mountain $289,000


Amazing Mtn Views! $227,000


Powder Ridge $350,000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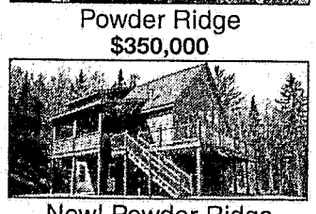
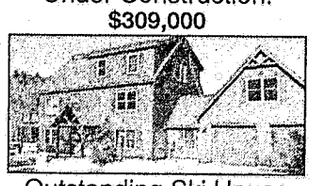
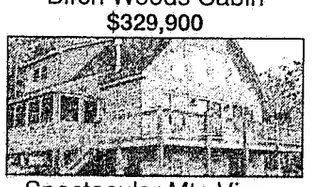
Birch Woods Cabin $329,900


New! Powder Ridge $365,000


Outstanding Ski House $584,000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BETHEL INN CONDO #522 2 bed/2 bath, lock-out unit, 11th hole..... $185,000
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PARKWAY PROFESSIONAL CONDO Full kitchen, 4 offices, handicap accessible..... $148,000
CASCADES C1 1bed/1bath, top floor-end unit, ski in/out, upgrades..... $129,900
FALL LINE - N109 1bed/1bath, recently remodeled, pool, furnished, slopeside $129,000
WHITECAP B417 1bed/1bath, ungraded, furnished, ski in/out..... $127,500
MT ABRAM #28A 2bed/2bath Spacious End Unit, woodstove, views, private $126,000
BROOKSIDE II B302 1bed/1bath, great views sleeps 6, slopeside..... $125,000
PARK STREET CONDO #4 2bed/1bath, quality finishes, in town..... $89,000
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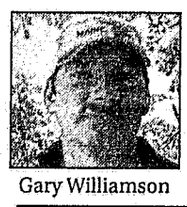
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MLS 1109939 West Paris. Skiers take note!! House can accommodate a crowd!! Secluded, modern, open concept, 3,900+ sq.ft. home w/ AMAZING views of the White Mountains. 20 min. to Sunday River! 21 solar panels & wind turbine connected to the grid provides CLEAN FREE POWER. Cherry kitchen, sauna, hot tub, spa bath, loft, large wrap-around deck, ash & cork floors, and more. Seven private acres. $345,000

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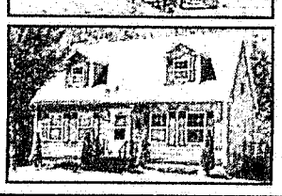
MLS #1103901 2004 Cape, like new on 1.1 acres, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 minutes to Bethel, close to Songo Pond, quick drive to ski at Sunday River. Great vacation home or year round home! Only $189,000 A must see!!

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'The other side of the coin'

"I calculate we'll stay and earn our money," choked Buster. And they did. I went off on a long snowshoe trip, came back to find B.B. mixing mortar and the new chimney already started. The house was freezing but not cold enough to take that newest of infernal smells from the air.

I couldn't wait to get to Alice's that night to scrub hide, hair, and clothing but was back early next a.m. We ripped up the study carpet. One corner of it could have been salvaged, but my Yankee thrift failed me. "Let's just roll it up and throw it all on the dump heap," I suggested.

B.B. stared at me in amazement and amusement. "Is this you? Surely there is some part of it worth saving?" I did not rise to the bait. All day we cleared away debris; the more we shoveled and swept, the fouler the air. Jimmy Jon and a friend came by to check our progress but they did not stay and offer to help. Mr. I.A. came to see if we had any estimates of cost for work yet. We had no estimates, just much work already done. He thought it a miracle but left hastily, saying he would be back next week. A few friends came but quickly left. To the dump and back, to the dump and back. I went for the second night to Alice's and repeated my scrubbing regime. She had made us a gourmet supper. I ate it and praised it, but tasted it not at all. I stayed in town all morning ironing and did not go up the hill till noontime.

The weather had changed; warm sunshine, all the doors and windows in the place were open. The boys were almost to the roof with the new chimney. It was made of cement blocks with a tile lining, but the part that showed above the roof was to be faced with old bricks to match our other chimneys. Discouragement turned to elation. I filled the woodbox, cleaned and filled my lamp, and used four pails of scalding soapsuds to scrub off the top layer of the kitchen floor. The boys finished the chimney and patched the roof. We were all ready to try a fire but the pipe from the furnace did not fit into the new chimney opening. The weather was so mild I decided to sleep here this night. By midnight the mercury dropped twenty degrees, but I put more logs on the fire and slept well. B.B. came in the morning with another piece of pipe. This was the right size. He built a furnace fire. Even Buster left his work, and we all went outside to watch for the smoke. Up it went in a beautiful spiral; the chimney drew well. It was just two weeks since the fire and the new chimney was in and satisfactory, the roof closed in. Elated, I made some hot biscuits to go with the soup for lunch. That night I moved upstairs to sleep in the southeast bedroom. The ceiling was partly down, the smell as bad as ever, but it was a great improvement over the cave.

I slept so soundly that the boys were here in the a.m. before the kitchen fire was going. They always watched the smoke each day as they drove from the woods and came into the fie l. None of us were so gay oday; our noses and throats were still smarting, our plaster coughs still with us. B.B. went off to cut furnace wood, an April chore. I slowly emptied another closet, making piles for laundry; for dry-cleaning; for the dump. The boys assured me at midmorning soup that now the chimney was in, that the worst was over. I felt that there would never be an end of sorrow and dirt and remembered how Edward A. had said it would have been better if the whole house had burned down. How right he was! I looked up and saw B.B. jog trotting toward the truck. He never jogged so I ran out and saw that his right thumb was wound with a bloody rag.

"What happened?" said I. "Not much," said he. "I cut my thumb, but think it would be best to have the doctor look at it." Now B.B. was not a running-to-the-doctor man, so I knew it was more than a scratch. I went back to the house, told the boys, and Buster sent his helper, Bob, to drive. They soon came back and reported that B.B. had cut through a tendon. "Not completely!" said I in dismay.

"Oh no," said B.B. "Only seven-eighths of it and that d.... Doe Young just sewed it up without giving me a sedative. He's sure it will heal and never bother me."

Buster commented that now he would have to work faster and harder as B.B. would be of no more help. It wasn't till July that he finally put down our new birch dining room floor. The cut was one of those things that rarely happen to woodsmen. B.B. had been splitting some tough oak. He drove in the wedges beneath the exterior of the log. Still it did not split. Every time he drove his splitting hammer in beside the wedge, the wedge instead of popping out as is usual, sank deeper into the stringy fibers. Then, driving the hammer beside the wedge again, a piece of wood joggled his elbow, the hammer hit his thumb instead of the log. At least this settled the matter of the horse clinic.

Baize Tankersley was coming up from Virginia with some of her Arabs, her trainer and veterinarian for two days of lectures and demonstrations. B.B. had reservations. Since he would be of no use here, he might as well go and left directly from Alice's next a.m.

Weddings

Deegan-Benson

The wedding of Michelle Ann Deegan and Jeremy Paul Benson was held at 3 p.m. on Nov. 3, 2012 at the Ski Esta House located on the top of Sunday River Mountain. Natalie Simmons, Friend of the couple officiated a personally written ceremony.The bride is the daughter of Alice and Ronald Deegan of Bryant Pond. The groom is the son of Kathy Benson of Bethel and Paul Benson of Woodstock.

The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a strapless mermaid fit ivory gown, and a peacock feather in her hair. She carried a bouquet of white roses with blue thistle, green berries and peacock feathers intertwined. All of the bridal bouquets and flower arrangements were created by Carol at Pooh Corner Farm.

The Maid of Honor was Tiffany Glidden close friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Kate Aucoin, Alanna Borst, Andrea Owens, Samantha Purcell, and Elizabeth Smith, all of which are also close friends of the bride. A reading during the ceremony was given by bride's friend Jessica Stubbert.

Flower Girls were Hailey Benson, daughter of Michelle and Jeremy, and Brooke Purcell daughter of bridesmaid Samantha Purcell.

Serving as Best Man was the groom's brother, Jeffery Benson. Ushers and groomsmen were Ian Andrews, close friend of groom, Paul Benson, Father of the g room, and Jordan Walker also a close friend of the groom.

The couple exchanged vows while experiencing various weather patterns. Cocktail hour, and buffet dinner immediately followed the ceremony catered by the Good Food Store. The beautiful cake and whoppie pies were created by the bride's cousin Sally Smith. The weekend event concluded with the reception Dj'd by a friend of the couple Jesse Klein, here many friends and family celebrated and danced the night away into the early morning hours.

The Bensons want to thank all family and friends who made their wedding weekend a picture perfect event, we can't thank you enough, and love you all. The couple currently resides in Auburn with their daughter Hailey Benson.

Bethel Senior Citizens news

The Bethel Senior Citizens Club met Dec. 11 at the Bethel Inn for their meeting and dinner with 44 members present. President Caroline Gould led in the salute to the flag, led in singing "America the Beautiful" and offered a prayer. Reports were given by Becky Keen and Arlene Lowell. The raffle was won by Norman Beaupre and the door prize by Fran Head. The cookbooks with recipes from members were made by Shannon Thielbar and Becky Keen and distributed to members.

The basket, which was painted and donated by Eleanor Brooks, was won by Ruby Coolidge and the jewelry, made by Laney Cross and donated by Phyllis Cross, was won by Marilyn Gilbert. $80 was raised for the club by selling tickets on those items.

Lise McLain made and donated four necklaces which were won by Fran Head, Musa Brown, Barbara Patterson and Sandra Beaupre.

The next meeting is Jan. 8, 2014 at the Bethel Methodist Church. Meeting starts at 11a.m., this will be a pot luck meal; members will bring a dish to share. The auction will also be held at the meeting, members will bring items for that. Dues ($3) are also due at this meeting. New members are always welcome.

The Crescent Park chorus under the direction of Linda Stowell sang several Christmas Carols which was enjoyed by all. Thank you Linda and children.

Envelopes for Nina Wheelers Christmas for Families and the Bethel Food Pantry were passed around for those who wished to donate.

Many thanks to Caroline Gould for all she has done for the club while she was president.

Officers for the coming year are President Fran Head, Vice-President Lise McLain, Treasurer Becky Keen, Assistant treasurer Barbara Mahler and Secretary Arlene Lowell.

Happy birthday was sung to those having December birthdays: Musa Brown, Caroline Gould, Alma Merrill and Mary Paine.

Thank You

A heartfelt appreciation to all those who were there for us during our time of need.
The outpouring of love through prayers, hugs, a word, cards, food, and cleaning were all so greatly appreciated. It helps to carry us through this difficult time.

Thank You,
The Bartholomew Family
Robert, Brenda, Tyrel, and Eden

Resolutions of Respect

Whereas our Heavenly Father has called our beloved brother, Marvin E. Kendall, from earthly duties to the Great Grange above, and, whereas he has given more than sixty-seven years of devotion to our order, he will be greatly missed by the members of Pleasant Valley Grange, Patrons of Husbandry:

Resolved that we, the members of Pleasant Valley Grange #136, extend our sincerest sympathy to the bereaved family.

Resolved that a copy of these resolutions be spread upon our records, a copy be sent to "The Bethel Citizen" to be printed therein, and a copy be sent to the family of our beloved brother as a token of respect.

Committee of Resolutions:
Pauline Applin
Ina Grover
Barbara Mahler

Tourmaline rings raffle to benefit Grange

A local gem miner has donated two pink tourmaline rings to be raffled off in support of the Franklin Grange in Bryant Pond, and the Rumford Grange.

The rings are made from Dunton tourmaline, mined years ago from Plumbago Mountain in Newry.

While the miner wishes to remain anonymous, the rings can be seen, and tickets purchased, at The Mineral Collector in Bryant Pond.

The Mineral Collector is Dennis Gross. He may be contacted at the shop, located at 178 North Main Street in Bryant Pond, or at 665-2759.

Tickets are $1 each. The drawing will be held on Jan. 11 if more than 100 tickets are sold by then.

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Isn't it nifty? My hubby turned 50!

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